

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Hassan returns from Britain

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday returned home after a several-day visit to the United Kingdom. Prince Hassan was received by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Royal Court Secretary General Rajai Dajani in addition to senior government officials. Prince Hassan Tuesday presides over a three-day Asian-Arab meeting of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), at the Royal Cultural Centre. Taking part in the conference will be 36 personalities from the Arab World, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Turkey. Conference will discuss issues pertaining to dialogue between the North and the South, administration of resources, promoting economic relations between Arab countries and Asian states in addition to cultural relations between the two worlds.

W. Bank majority favours PNC in Amman

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The vast majority of the 1.3 million Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip favour the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Nov. 22 and support Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, according to Israeli experts, foreign diplomats and opinion polls quoted by the Reuters news agency.

However opponents of the PLO move to convene the Palestine National Council in Amman as scheduled are also active in campaigning against the PLO chairman and his policies, according to reports.

Palestinian newspapers published in East Jerusalem were Monday filled with notices calling for the PNC to meet on Thursday. Only two small papers, one backed by the Communists and the other by Syria, oppose the meeting. In bitter editorials, they have labelled leading PLO leaders "collaborators and traitors."

Raymonda Tawil, a prominent journalist whose car was bombed by the opposition, told Reuters the meeting should be held even if it meant a final split in the PLO.

She said Palestinians under Israeli occupation favoured a PLO link with Amman and Cairo "and if the Syrians want to follow afterwards, they will be welcome."

A Western diplomat who watches West Bank developments told Reuters Ms. Tawil's view was widely shared. "Those who have lived under occupation for 17 years want only to get rid of it. They have a much more pragmatic approach than those in the diaspora," he said.

Israel has forbidden West Bank residents from attending the PNC meeting, saying the PLO was a "terrorist" organisation.

On Saturday, 2,000 Palestinians negotiated military roadblocks to attend two counter-demonstrations at a West Bank university over the convening of the PNC, as scheduled.



Former Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Bakouh, now living in exile in Egypt, acts dead in a photograph that the Egyptian intelligence used to trick Libya into announcing his "execution" (AP wirephoto)

Hawatmeh heads for Moscow

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Representatives of pro-Soviet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) groups left for Moscow on Monday for what a Palestinian official described as "important" talks with Kremlin leaders on the future of the fragmented liberation movement.

The trip comes amid a dispute between pro-Syrian factions and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat over the latter's call for a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Thursday. The delegation to Moscow was led by Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), who is considered the closest Kremlin ally among PLO leaders.

A DFLP official said Mr. Hawatmeh was accompanied by representatives from other factions in the so-called "democratic alliance." These are the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party.

The DFLP official, who asked not to be named, said: "The delegation of the 'democratic alliance' will hold important talks on the future of the Palestinian cause."

Mr. Hawatmeh has been trying to mediate an end to the PLO rift. He is one of the few Palestinian leaders who has not declared definitively whether he will attend the PNC meeting called by Mr. Arafat, and his decision could reflect Moscow's stand on the issue.

There have been reports of disagreement between Syria, which supports rebellious PLO factions seeking to topple Mr. Arafat, and Moscow, which has continued to support the PLO leader.

Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad met in Damascus with PNC Speaker Khaled Fahoum and PFLP leader George Habash. The official Syrian news agency said the talks focused on the PNC meeting and the inter-Palestinian problems.

Mr. Fahoum, a close Syrian ally, has turned down Mr. Arafat's call for a meeting and so has the Damascus-based PFLP.

S. Yemen urges unity

Meanwhile, the president of South Yemen on Monday urged the PLO leadership to patch up their differences before trying to convene the PNC, the Gulf news agency reported from Bahrain.

All Nasser Mohammad sent a message to Mr. Arafat saying "any step that could fitter the (Palestinian) force should be avoided and that includes inviting the Palestinian National Council to meet without prior comprehensive national agreement."

President Nasser Mohammad is one of the Arab leaders actively engaged in trying to heal the intra-Palestinian rifts.

"The current condition of the Palestinian revolution necessitates maximum degree of wisdom from all units of the Palestinian resistance in the interest of preserving its unity," Mr. Nasser Mohammad said, describing the PLO as the greatest achievement secured by the struggle and sacrifice of the Palestinian people.

Egyptian-Libyan conflict worsens

CAIRO (AP) — The Egyptian-Libyan rift deepened Monday with Libya urging the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak, an Egyptian minister charging Libya with plots to undermine Egypt's national security and a Cairo editor demanding collective Arab punishment of Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi.

Col. Qadhafi, branded "an international terrorist" Sunday by President Mubarak, was described Monday in Egypt's press as a "blood thirsty criminal."

The authoritative daily Al-Ahram called in an editorial for joint Arab action to check what it called Col. Qadhafi's wildness and said Egypt had long warned Arabs that he was "a mad, blood-thirsty leader who behaves like a criminal."

Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi said Sunday Egyptian security forces had been ordered on alert for any possible Libyan reprisals following Saturday's announcement that Egypt had foiled a plot to kill a Libyan opposition leader in Cairo.

Egypt said it had caught four Libyan-paid men — two Britons and two Maltese — sent to kill former Libyan Prime Minister

The weekly Mayo newspaper quoted Mr. Rushdi as saying Anthony Gill, 48, one of the two Britons involved, had led the death squad.

The others were Godfrey Shiner, a 47-year-old Briton, and Maltese Romeo Nicholas 42, and Edgar Caccia, 40.

After taking office in 1981 following the assassination of President Anwar Sadat by Muslim extremists, Mr. Mubarak ordered a halt to all attacks by the press and government-owned radio on Egypt's Arab critics.

Millions of 'Mars' bars checked for rat poison

LONDON (Agencies) — Millions of "Mars" bars, a chocolate confection billed as Britain's favourite sweet, were removed from display in shops throughout the country Monday for checks on whether they had been injected with rat poison.

The self-styled Animal Liberation Front set off the scare at the weekend by claiming it had poisoned hundreds of the sweets in London, York, Leeds, Coventry, and Southampton.

Three people reported minor upsets after eating bars whose wrappings were marked with an "X" and found to contain notes from the front complaining that the manufacturers encouraged cruelty to monkeys.

Police said checks so far showed that the wrappings of fewer than 20 bars had been tampered with and none had been contaminated.

Government Minister David Mellor denounced the animal rights activists as "dangerous lunatics prepared to sacrifice children on the altar of their fanaticism."

However the group admitted Monday that its claim to have injected Mars with poison in a protest of tooth-decay research on monkeys was a hoax.

A spokesman for the front, Ronnie Lee, said, "No Mars bars in shops were poisoned at all. I can confirm that now."

Mr. Lee said in a radio interview the hoax was designed to cut into Mars' profits and call attention to the research at London's Guy's Hospital.

Mars acknowledged it used to contribute to such research, but the funding was ended in August.

Jordanian trade union disowns cable to Thatcher

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Secretary General of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions (GJTU) Samir Qardan denied Monday that the federation has sent a cable to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher condemning the British government's "oppressive and arbitrary measures" against striking coal miners.

The cable was sent by only three "radical" associations within the federation and "has nothing to do with us," Mr. Qardan told the Jordan Times.

The chairman of the Health Services Association (HSA), Issa Khassan, contacted by telephone, said that the HSA, together with the Textile and Weaving Association headed by Fathallah Omrani and the Bankers and Accountants Associations chaired by Yousef Hourani, sent a cable calling on the British government "to compromise with the striking coalminers" and to meet their legitimate demands. A copy of the cable was sent to the British National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) expressing the federation's solidarity with the miners, Mr. Khassan said.

Following are excerpts of the cable, according to Mr. Khassan: "In the name of thousands of workers in Jordan, we declare our solidarity with the striking coalminers and ask the British government to cease the arbitrary and oppressive measures against them and to meet their demands." Mr. Khassan said the cable was discussed by the GJTU before it was sent, but was signed only by three associations.

In his statement to the Jordan Times, Mr. Qardan said that although the federation endorses the rights of workers wherever they were, but "if such a cable is to be sent, we need the approval of the central council of the GJTU as well as the endorsement of the 17-member association. 'Only after that is reached, we will send such a cable,' Mr. Qardan said.

2,200 miners reporting to work, British Coal Board says, page 8

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Za'atun challenges Fahoum

AMMAN (AP) — The deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Mr. Salim Za'atun, Monday challenged Mr. Khaled Fahoum, the PNC speaker who is boycotting the session, to come to Amman to chair the council himself. "If Mr. Fahoum is indeed sure of his claim that 180 PNC members would not attend the PNC session, I call upon him to come and count the delegates that will attend," Mr. Za'atun told Jordan Television in an interview. "I am fully confident that Thursday's meeting will be attended by more than the two-third majority needed for the council," Mr. Za'atun added. Mr. Fahoum has refused to call the council to session when called upon by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to do so earlier this month. The PNC speaker lives in Damascus and is known to support Syrian views on the PLO rift. Mr. Za'atun will be chairing the PNC if Mr. Fahoum does not show up for the meeting.

Sharif Zaid, U.S. admiral hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday received in his office the chief of the American fleet in the Middle East, Admiral Adams, and held talks with him. The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Faizi Abu Taleb.

Arafat to visit London next month

LONDON (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat plans to make his first visit to Britain next month but it will be strictly private, the Foreign Office said Monday. The visit, believed to be planned for Dec. 22, will be to help launch Mr. Arafat's biography, written by British author Alan Hart, Arab sources in London said. The date has not yet been approved by the British government. A Foreign Office spokesman emphasised the visit would be purely private and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader would not meet any government officials.

Jawara pursues Gulf peace bid

ANKARA (R) — Gambia President Sir Dawda Jawara will arrive in Ankara Monday to discuss peace efforts by Islamic countries to end the Iran-Iraq war. Turkish Foreign Ministry officials said Monday, Mr. Jawara, who heads a seven-member peace committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), wanted to consult Turkish President Kenan Evren about the activities of the committee, the officials said. Turkey is a member of the committee.

Magazine pays damages to KAL

LONDON (R) — A defence magazine Monday agreed to pay substantial libel damages to Korean Airlines (KAL) over an article which implied the KAL jetliner shot down by the Soviet Union last year was on a spying mission. The agreement was announced in the high court by lawyers for the London-based magazine Defence Attache, who said publishers Diplomat Associates and editor Rupert Penneley accepted there was no foundation for the allegation.

Over 80 dead in Mexico blasts

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A series of pre-dawn explosions at a natural gas processing complex rocked the Mexican capital Monday, followed by a huge fire that sent a pall of smoke more than a mile up in the air. Authorities and rescue workers said at least 80 people were killed and "hundreds" injured. Officials said shortly after the explosion that "nearly 400 persons were injured and 21 killed, according to preliminary reports." A worker with the private volunteer rescue organisation Laser, reported another 35, also died in the holocaust that blasted around 33 acres in a poor working people's district were devastated by the first explosion.

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Stage set for PNC session in Amman

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The battle for holding the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Thursday is now virtually over. Fateh has secured the two-third quorum it needs to convene the council on schedule.

This was the assessment Monday of not only the pro-PNC camp but also of the groups opposed to the session as well as observers. The proponents of the PNC might have had doubts about how many delegates they could muster for the council session a few days ago, but on Monday a Fateh official said confidently: "Today we have no doubts at all. All is set to go. The PNC will convene as planned on Thursday."

Although opponents of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) decision to convene the much-delayed PNC session in Amman as scheduled have claimed that up to 180 of the 379 members of the council are not going to attend the planned session, they admit that this does not really constitute an obstacle since Fateh can, through provisions laid down in the PLO statute, replace a

big number of those before the council is actually convened.

According to its statute the PNC consists of three categories of members:

— Independent members who cannot be replaced before convening the council;

— Representatives of various factions which constitute the PLO;

— and representatives of various popular Palestinian organisations.

Tackling the issue of attendance by representatives of various PLO factions the PNC proponents have taken advantage of the provision that any of these factions can name their representatives in the PNC any time before or after convening the PNC. The eight factions of the PLO are given a quota of membership in the council and apparently the PNC organisers are counting on renaming the existing representatives of certain factions

opposing the PNC session.

For instance, Fateh can easily replace any of its PNC representatives who have joined Syrian-backed dissidents in the commando movement. "Fateh will use this card to bring in three unexpected factions to attend the PNC," according to the sources.

The issue of the representatives in the PNC of Popular Palestinian organisations, which include professional unions and associations, is more complex than the PLO factions' representation in the council.

Despite provisions in the PNC statute rules out renaming representatives of these organisations, there have been a number of precedents when such representatives were actually replaced before the PNC was convened. Experts on the statute told the Jordan Times that "although the PNC opponents can charge that Fateh violated the statute, precedents will show that it will not be for the first time."

Incidentally, almost all Palestinian trade unions, professional associations and other popular organisations are dominated by Fateh supporters.

A well-known Palestinian lawyer, who is opposed to the idea of

(Continued on page 4)

PNC to reiterate call for confederal ties with Jordan

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), which is scheduled to meet here next Thursday, will reiterate earlier PNC resolutions calling for confederal ties between Jordan and an independent Palestinian state on the now occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and would elect a new Executive Committee, a senior Palestinian official said Monday.

Ahmad Abdul Rahman, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) spokesman, told reporters at a press conference that the planned PNC session will confirm resolutions endorsed at the 16th session in Algiers in February, 1983, covering relations with Jordan.

The PLO spokesman also disclosed that the new Executive

Committee to be elected by the 17th PNC session, will not include representatives of Syrian-backed factions of the PLO.

The current 14-member Executive Committee headed by Yasser Arafat includes two representatives of pro-Syrian factions — Talal Naji of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) and Mohammad Khalifa from Saiga.

Mohsen Abu Maizar, an independent with pro-Syrian Baathist political inclinations, is also considered to be representing Syrian views within the PLO ever since he backed dissidents in the Fateh movement, the mainstream commando group, who rose against Mr. Arafat's leadership in May 1983.

Mr. Abdul Rahman, who is a member of the Fateh Revolutionary Council, said that the

PLO will no longer tolerate "agents of Arab countries in its leadership."

"We want independent Palestinians, not agents of Arab countries, to lead our revolution," he said.

According to the Fateh official one of the major reasons that make Syria oppose the convening of the PNC is that Damascus does not want the PLO factions it backs to be expelled from the PLO or even condemned by the council for attacking Palestinian refugee camps in north Lebanon last year.

Mr. Abdul Rahman was referring to battles between Fateh fighters and the Syrian-backed rebels in and around the Lebanese port of Tripoli and which compelled Mr. Arafat and 2,000 of his supporters to leave north Lebanon in December 1983.

(Continued on page 4)

Turkish diplomat shot dead in Vienna

VIENNA (Agencies) — A Turkish diplomat was shot dead in his car in central Vienna Monday by a gunman who threw a cloth over the body bearing the name of an extremist Armenian group.

Police said Evner Ergun, 52, an employee of the United Nations here since 1979, was killed outright when the hooded gunman fired six shots into his red Mercedes car.

Mr. Ergun, who was married with one son, was waiting at a red light at a busy street which crosses Vienna's elegant Ringstrasse, the city's main traffic artery.

A police spokesman said the gunman leaned through the shattered car window and draped a white cloth over the body with the words Armenian Revolutionary Army — ARA printed in blue ink.

The ARA also claimed responsibility for a car bomb blast in Vienna last June which killed a Turkish diplomat and seriously injured an Austrian policeman.

Armenian extremists, who accuse Turkey of massacring hundreds of thousands of their people in 1915, have claimed responsibility in the last decade for killing more than 30 Turks around the world, mainly diplomats and their relatives.

Turkey denies the massacre charge.

Israel rejects Lebanese demand; Berri renews threat to quit talks

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israel and Lebanon Monday held a third round of talks aimed at an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon as Lebanese minister Nabih Berri accused Israel of assassinating Shi'ite Muslim clerics in the occupied south and hinted Lebanon might walk out anew from the talks.

During Monday's talks Israel rejected a Lebanese demand, made last Thursday, for reparations of some \$10 billion for damages caused by its 1982 invasion. It also refused to release Lebanese prisoners detained in South Lebanon and other detention camps until resistance attacks against the occupation troops ended.

Lebanon has said it has been decided to drop consideration of the demand for reparations to confine the talks to security and military questions.

Israeli delegation chief Brigadier-General Amos Gilboa was quoted by an Israeli spokesman as saying: "The Israeli delegation categorically rejects this request because the talks are being held for security arrangements."

The two military delegations, meeting at the heavily guarded headquarters of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in the southern Lebanese village of Naqura, discussed plans for deployment of the Lebanese army and U.N. peacekeepers. They will meet again on Wednesday.

Israel, which is holding 1,000 Lebanese in one detention camp alone, also turned down Monday a Lebanese call to release prisoners and reopen crossings between north and South Lebanon while resistance attacks on its troops continued.

"We say that Israel... will not undertake such measures as long as there are attacks against our soldiers," said Gen. Gilboa.

As Monday's talks drew to a close, Mr. Berri said in a Beirut Radio broadcast:

"It (Israel) attacks notables, ulemas (clerics) and leaders in an attempt to empty the south of its nationalistic and Islamic tendencies," said Mr. Berri, who also heads Lebanon's largest Shi'ite militia, "Amal."

"We cannot stand handcuffed in the face of these practices. We shall debate taking the necessary measures concerning the negotiations and the protection of our people" in occupied South Lebanon Mr. Berri added.

His statement was triggered by the death Sunday of Sheikh Abdul Latif Al Amin in a U.N. clinic in Naqura from gunshot wounds he suffered in an attempt on his life last Wednesday.

Before Mr. Berri's threat was issued, the Beirut-based Higher Shi'ite Council, the sect's supreme spiritual leadership, formally announced Mr. Amin's death in a statement that blamed his assassination on "Israel and its agents."

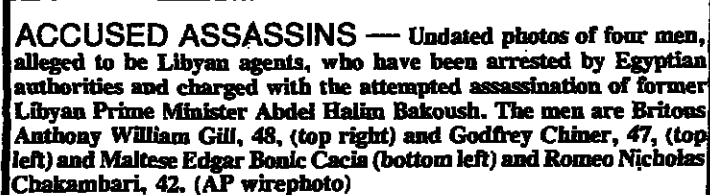
CAIRO (R) — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi said Monday Egypt had asked the 10-nation European Community (EC) to play a more effective role in the Middle East peace process.

CAIRO (R) — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi said Monday Egypt had asked the 10-nation European Community (EC) to play a more effective role in the Middle East peace process.

The 1980 Venice Declaration called for Palestinian self-determination and for Israel to be given the right to peace and security, while saying the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should be associated with peace talks.

Mr Craxi said there was a con-

Italy felt there could be no Middle East peace settlement without a recognition of Palestinian rights, he said.



ACCUSED ASSASSINS — Undated photos of four men, alleged to be Libyan agents, who have been arrested by Egyptian authorities and charged with the attempted assassination of former Libyan Prime Minister Abdel Halim Boukhou. The men are Britons Anthony William Gill, 48, (top right) and Godfrey Chiner, 47, (top left) and Maltese Edgar Bonic Cacia (bottom left) and Romeo Nicholas Chakamari, 42. (AP wirephoto)

Syrian premier in Sofia

He said he would be happy to be the Israeli envoy, adding: "I think I could handle the job."

drought victims
RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia's

GCC ready to finance drought victims

The National News Agency (IRNA) said the car and a pickup with the United Nations in Iran, were also admitted to hospital.

No further details were given of the aid programme for African countries such as Ethiopia.

By Trevor Wood
Reuter

from sitting in the Majlis. Khalkhali said in his statement that he risked his life for the revolution but was now "depressed and disillusioned because I see my tireless efforts criticised, not by the people but by my comrades-in-arms."

Khalkhali said he did not repent one execution.

"People like me because they see nothing but sincerity in me," his statement said.

PARIS (R) — The French government maintained an embarrassed silence Monday on Chad, President Hissene Habre. The move won the approval of all political parties except the Communists.

and sent Defence Minister Charles Hernu and Chief-of-Staff Jeannou Lacaze to N'djamena, the Chadian capital. External Relations Minister Claude Che-

Paris sent troops to the former French colony last year to counter a southwards offensive by Libyan-backed rebels opposed to the central government of President Moubariz.

PARIS (AP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad says his country has not been involved in any Middle East terrorism, but defends the

"We are therefore against terrorism just as much as we are for the Lebanese National Resistance against the Israeli invasion," said Mr. Arafat's problems came from "the Palestinians themselves."

1982 bombing attack against an anti-Syrian publication in central Paris.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS

EMERGENCIES		MEDICAL PHARMACY	
Ambulance	193, 775111	Al Salem pharmacy	770910
Firstaid, fire, police	199	Al Wazirah pharmacy	22924
Blood bank	775121	Asaf pharmacy	53281
Civil Defence rescue	661113	Fairb pharmacy	663926
Fire headquarters	2200-5	Iyad pharmacy	774522
Police rescue	192, 21111, 77777		
Police headquarters	39141	TAXIS:	
Traffic police	56390-1	Neil taxi	44433
Electric Power Co.	36381-2	Grand Palace taxi	967079
Municipal water service	77123-8	Medinet City taxi	813131
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 53333	Faisal taxi	72051
		Rashid taxi	22023
		Talal taxi	25021
HOSPITALS		REID	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813-32	Dr. Ahmad D. Bashawi	73923
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amm	44281-4	Fazzeenah pharmacy	74973
Akshid Maternity, J. Amman	44341		
Jabal Amman Maternity	43562	ZARQA:	
Malhas, J. Amman	36140	Dr. Moun Odah	962049
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171-4	Jayouss pharmacy	(-)
Shmeisani Hospital	669133	Al Hayya pharmacy	
University Hospital	843945		
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein	667158		
Al-Musader Hospital	667272-9	GENERAL	
The Islamic, Abadi	665292	Jordan Television	773111
Abadi, Abadi	66444	Radio Jordan	773111
Italian, Al-Mutahireen	77701-3	Ministry of Tourism	42311
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah	775111	Hotel-complaints	666412
Army, Marka	91611	Police complaints	667176
		Telephone	667176
NIGHT DUTY		Information	12
AMMAN:		Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Dr. Zein Zaghoul	38591	Overseas calls	15
Dr. Yusuf Sammour	675648	Cable or telegram	18
		Repeat service	11
MARKET PRICES			
<i>Uppermost price in file per kg.</i>			
Apple (double tree)	200/1752	Lemon	180/1700
Apple (golden)	200/1710	Mango	200/1700
Apple (starline)	200/1170	Mandarin	150/1320
Banana	250/240	Marrow (large)	100/80
Banana (Mukdumara)	200/1210	Marrow (small)	150/160
Beans	300/250	Onion (red)	170/120
Broad beans	600/350	Onion (green)	240/230
Cauliflower	200/170	Olive	600/250
Chestnut	750/650	Olive (green)	420/250
Carrot	120/10	Onion (olive green)	200/150
Cauliflower	140/110	Orange (Nababulnab)	150/120
Cucumber (large)	100/80	Peach	200/100
Cucumber (small)	150/140	Pears (American)	200/400
Dates	200/170	Pineapple	170/120
Eggplant (large)	100/70	Purple (Red prince)	180/110
Eggplant (small)	100/130	Pomegranates (new)	400/320
Grapefruit	110/120	Potatoes	100/160
Grapes	220/180	Raspberries	120/100
Grapefruit	110/80	Sage	180/150
		Strawberries	120/120

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet promotes Yousef, Tarawneh

AMMAN (PT) — The Cabinet has decided to promote Public Security Director Lieutenant General Diab Yousef and Director General of the Civil Defence Department Lieutenant General Khaled Al Tarawneh to the rank of general, according to a report in the Al-Rai Arabic daily newspaper Monday.

Nsour, envoys review cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Abdullah Al Nsour Monday discussed with American Ambassador to Jordan Paul Baker means of consolidating cooperation between Jordan and the United States in the field of planning. Mr. Nsour also discussed bilateral relations with Switzerland during a meeting with Swiss Ambassador to Jordan Andre Lois Vallon.

Transport official departs for maritime talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Transport Under-Secretary Nabil Arafat Monday left for Baghdad to take part in the meetings of the International Maritime Association.

Irbid agriculture station sows wheat

AMMAN (Petra) — The Irbid Agriculture Department has completed sowing 400 dunums of land at Marou agricultural station with wheat seeds and 440 dunums with barley. The Irbid agriculture director called on all farmers to sow their land with seeds and to benefit from the experiences of the agricultural stations.

Teams continue desert search for missing men

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A search for two men reported missing last week in the area between Zila and Dab'ah, some 40 kilometres south of Amman, continued Monday with the participation of rescue teams from the Civil Defence Department (CDD), the Public Security Department (PSD) and the Badieh (desert) police.

The bus which carried the two men on the desert road in that area during heavy rains was found Saturday, a spokesman for the Civil Defence Department said. However, there was no trace of the two men who are believed to have been swept by flash floods.

Lieutenant Awwad Jawarneh from the CDD Monday told the Jordan Times that the search for the two citizens from Karak continued with the aid of volunteers from Karak and with the assistance of helicopters from the Royal Jordanian Air Force. He said the last men were identified as Sa'ady Abdullah Abu Nuwas and Mohammad Abdul Rahim Sarairah, both teachers in Karak.

Lt. Jawarneh said that the search will continue until the men are found. He described the area where they were lost as "very dangerous", being a low area threatened always by flash floods and where people could easily lose their way. He said, "at a certain stage we were worried that volunteers, who participated in the search together with the rescue teams, would be lost as well."

Also reported missing as a result of heavy rains earlier this month is a Korean employee of Hanbo construction company who disappeared from his work site on the eve of the heavy rains in Northern Shouneh area where the company works on the Wadi Al Arab dam project.

The missing man, identified as Lee Hee Young, was reported missing at 8.30 p.m. In an advertisement which appeared in the local press, the Hanbo company offered a reward for whoever finds Mr. Young. The notice called on citizens living in the Shouneh area and in the villages in the Jordan Valley to cooperate in the search for the man.

ARA to promote Aqaba, tourism

AQABA (Petra) — The Aqaba Regional Authority (ARA) is to take part in two international exhibitions for tourism marketing. The first will be held in London from Nov. 25 to Dec. 3 while the second is scheduled to be held in Brussels between Nov. 22 - 26.

ARA President Mohammad Sa'eed Abu Nowwar said that the authority has prepared a booklet

on Aqaba city to be distributed to participants in the two exhibitions. He also pointed out that the ARA has prepared joint programmes in coordination with the Tourism Authority for participation in tourism marketing exhibitions held throughout the world.

The programme is aimed at supporting the hotel sector in

AWF prepares for Nairobi conference

Noor to patronise Arab women's discussion today

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor today patronises meetings of the Arab Women's Federation General Secretariat, which will be held at the Amman Chamber of Industry headquarters.

The AWF's achievements and preparations for the Nairobi conference, which will be held next year to mark the end of the United Nations 'Women's Decade', will be discussed during the meeting. The meeting will be presided over by Mrs. Haifa Al Bashir, president of the Jordanian Women's Federation.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, AWF Secretary General Manal Younis Abdul Razzaq said that the federation endeavours to relay a clear and actual picture about Arab women to the public and to organise relations amongst women associations in the world with a view to strengthening ties between these federations.

IFAD president reviews agriculture projects, loans

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Al Bashir Monday discussed with the visiting President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Abdul Mohsen Al Sudeiri and IFAD Middle East Director Sameer Al Asmar the existing agricultural relations between the ministry and the fund. Attending the meeting was the ministry's under-secretary, Dr. Salem Al Lawzi.

Mr. Sudeiri Monday also visited the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) and reviewed with ACC Director General Sami Al Sunna the granting of loans to farmers in the Jordan Valley area. Also discussed were the scope of

cooperation and ways of strengthening ties between the ACC and IFAD.

The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) was also visited by Mr. Sudeiri where he discussed with JCO Director General Hassan Al Nabulsi the progress of work on the JD 3.7 million project for cooperative agricultural development in rain-fed areas which the JCO is carrying out in the country with financing from IFAD. Later Mr. Sudeiri, Mr. Nabulsi, Dr. Sunna, Dr. Lawzi and Dr. Asmar visited the cooperative agricultural development project in the rain-fed area and inspected the progress of work there.

News agencies urge more coverage of Arab politics

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth symposium on dialogue and cooperation between Arab and European news agencies, which has concluded its meetings in Prague, called for directing more attention and more coverage to the political issues in the Arab World and for highlighting support for the Palestine question.

Speaking about the symposium, Mr. Jawad Maraka, director general of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, who represented Jor-

dan in the meetings, said that participants expressed their satisfaction at the English bulletin transmitted by the Arab news agencies and recommended that participants get the maximum use of this bulletin.

Mr. Maraka added that the symposium stressed the importance of continuous cooperation between Arab and European news agencies in the field of training and exchange of expertise and information.

The symposium also recommended that a projected Arabic service, parallel to the new service currently in operation, be established with special concentration on issues of peace, liberation and humanitarian issues in general.

Mr. Maraka earlier signed a cooperation and news exchange agreement between the Czechoslovakian News Agency and the Jordanian News Agency. The bilateral cooperation agreement was endorsed by the Cabinet Monday.

World Bank, IFI to discuss financing of foundry company

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arab Engineering Industries Company (AEIC) is due to hold a meeting with a joint mission from the World Bank and the International Financing Institution (IFI) to discuss the foundry project in which engineering materials such as fittings, will be produced. AEIC Chairman of the Board Bassam Saket told the Jordan Times.

The agenda of the meeting will include discussions on the proper means of financing on the project, either by offering long-term credits or through participation in the equity, Mr. Saket said. He added that this mission represents coordination between the AEIC and the World Bank side by side with one of its financing institutions.

Speaking about the newly-established company, Mr. Saket said that it is a public share holding company registered in 1984 with a capital of JD 15 million and owned by the Pension Fund, the Arab Mining Company, the Baghdad-based Arab Industrial Investment Company, Arab Bank of Jordan, the Industrial Development Bank, the Housing Bank, the Social Security Corporation and several investors.

Mr. Saket, who is also director general of the Pension Fund, said that this project is the first of its kind in Jordan and that tenders have been sent to several countries. It is expected to take three years to establish the project, he added.

Item description

Prices in dinars

— German bedroom with mattresses ready in different colours	365
— Local bedroom 6-door wardrobes, stereo, radio, lighting and mirrors together with ready mounted mattresses of different colours	450
— Italian bedroom, six-door wardrobes with stereo, radio lighting and mattresses which come in different colours	450
— German bedroom, six-door wardrobes with stereo, radio, mattresses lighting mirrors installed -different colours	375
— Italian carved bedroom, six-door wardrobes with mattresses	550
— Italian carved bedroom, six-door wardrobes, stereo, radio, mattresses	600
— Set of armchairs (long couch + our smaller ones) different colours	165
— Set of armchairs (one long couch of three seats one with two seats and three smaller ones)	175
— Deluxe set of armchairs (one couch with three large seats + one with two seats + three smaller ones)	235
— Elegant set of armchairs (one big + two-seat chair + three separate seats)	265
— Turkish set of carved armchairs (one big with three seats + four individual seats (deluxe) + two individuals separate ones of normal size + set of three small drawing room marble-top coffee tables	850
— Italian buffet with radio-light	135
— Italian carved buffet (three pieces)	245
— German buffet with stereo, lighting, radio (different colours)	165
— German buffet with lighting (different colours)	145
— Italian buffet (three pieces)	185
— Italian dining room table with drawers	23
— Expandable dining room table	35
— Chrome-dining room-chair (upholstered)	4
— Upholstered dining room chair (wooden and can be folded)	5
— Deluxe dining room chrome chair	10
— Dining room carved wooden chair with high back	18.5
— Five-piece Italian chrome coffee-tables (glass-top)	35
— Set of beech-wood coffee tables (local four pieces)	37.5
— Set of chrome or wooden coffee tables (four pieces)	39
— Turkish set of carved wood coffee tables (glass top, four pieces)	129
— Italian carved wood coffee tables (wooden top four pieces)	85
— Two door wooden wardrobe	38
— Single bedstead with mattress (wooden)	24
— Two storey beech wood bed with mattress	68
— Local made Morris style set (wooden)	175
— Wall clock	4
— Bathroom cupboard with light	5
— Alladine heater	20
— Vacuum cleaner for carpet with shampoo (manual)	11
— Electrical carpet vacuum cleaner	38
— Sharp video with remote control	285
— Orion Video (Japanese) with remote control (wireless)	285
— 12 foot refrigerator	170
— 14-foot refrigerator	185
— Five-point gas range (Italian with one or two doors)	135
— Oggi washing machine	27.5
— 20-inch colour television set	175
— 20-inch colour television with remote control	190
— Double-cassette recorder-radio	44
— Stereo cassette recorder radio with separate loudspeakers	80
— Table electric fan	14
— Study desk with two drawers	33
— auxiliary office chair	29
— Office executive chair	39
— Secretary chair	16
— Three lamp chrome chandelier (silver or golden colour)	15
— Four lamp chrome chandelier (silver or golden colour)	20
— Five lamp chrome chandelier (silver or golden colour)	25
— Office leather chair (S-shaped)	11
— Leather armchair for office (S-shaped)	19
— Television table (two shelf wooden or chrome)	9
— Television table (chrome or wood (three shelf))	12
— Television table (chrome or wood (three shelf))	17
— Carved dining room set of furniture (local, 8-chair + buffet + table)	460
— Child bed (chrome)	11.5
— Child bed (wooden)	12.5
— Single bedroom (complete set)	118
— Double size woolen blanket	10
— Single size woolen blanket	7
— Wall to wall carpet (burlap-Belgian) price per metre)	1.950
— Carpet (3 x 4)	55
— Curtains (price per metre)	1.5
— Washing machine with wringer	110
— German kitchen of different colours	245
— Large size washing machine with drier	100

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Ajlouni opens epidemiology workshop, calls for endemic disease research

By Rama Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni opened at the University of Jordan Monday a workshop for teachers of Epidemiology. The workshop is organised by the university's Manpower Development Centre (MPDC) in cooperation with World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health.

Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the university, stressed the university's role in promoting the new medical method "which applies theory and practice". Dr. Majali pointed out the new concept of "A Medical Family", which is an inseparable triangle made up of doctors, nurses and patients. This method, he said, has reduced a lot of medical malpractices due to differences in basic medical values. This method has also equalised the importance of both the doctors and nurses in saving humanity, he said.

Dr. Qandil Shaker, director of MPDC Health at the university welcomed the participants, and thanked WHO for choosing the MPDC as a place for this valuable workshop. Dr. Shaker also thanked the Minister of Health for backing up the MPDC.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Shaker defined the purpose of this workshop as, "to discuss and coordinate programmes for the prevention of various epidemics." He said that such programmes aim at reaching practical methods in alleviating these problems through teaching and educating the concerned health professions including doctors,

medical students, physicians and nurses. Participants will visit many areas in the Kingdom such as the Jordan Valley, and the King Talal Dam area, which are believed to be sources of some epidemics, added Dr. Shaker.

Personnel shortage

Dr. Mohammad Al Aghbari, WHO Eastern Mediterranean Consultant for Epidemics, outlined the problems facing the development of effective epidemiological surveillance activities. "The somewhat restricted interest of medical graduates in this important field has resulted in an acute shortage of well-trained personnel at all levels in this vital area," he said.

Dr. Ajlouni, in his speech, stressed the need of adequate researchers and scientists to investigate the causes of epidemics in villages and towns, "epidemics are

attacking our society and economical sectors," he said. "I am glad to inform you that we have bypassed the traditional scientific method in our medical education," he added. The university has provided educational services for the new generation, suitable to their future work and the country's needs, Dr. Ajlouni added. The minister also said that only a month ago, the university in cooperation with the Ministry of Health endorsed an "extensive effort" to provide medical care in the governmental hospitals and institutions which he described as theory being applied through practice.

The workshop, which will end on Nov. 30, includes professors of epidemiology from East Mediterranean regions, Lebanon, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Jordan.



Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni (second right) and University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali (second left) attend the opening of a workshop on epidemiology. (Petra photo)

Nixon urges Reagan to make use of opportunity

By Karen Elliott House

Early action advised

NEW YORK — Twelve years ago, another Republican president won a landslide second term and carefully laid plans to use his mandate to reshape the world of the 1970s. That man was Richard Nixon, and his plans, of course, were aborted by Watergate.

Now at 71, Mr. Nixon, grey, slightly stooped and surrounded by pictures of his grandchildren, vicariously savours Ronald Reagan's opportunity to reshape the world of the 1980s. The years haven't dimmed his interest in world affairs, his grasp of their intricacies or his fascination with the possibilities of power. His mind is still very much on the presidency, and he is rooting for Mr. Reagan with an enthusiasm born of his own wasted opportunity.

Mr. Nixon has strong views on policy priorities and the tactics for achieving them. He is offering his thoughts to President Reagan in detail, but he also is willing to share some of them during a 90-minute conversation on foreign policy.

If Mr. Nixon once was a team captain disqualified from the Super Bowl, he now seems an old coach sending the Republican team signals from the sideline. In a nutshell his advice is this:

Move quickly. Change some players if you can. But also keep your focus on very few issues. Forget about forging consensus, just lead. Don't ignore the "Third World." Don't focus exclusively on arms control. And move on the Middle East no later than early 1985.

His most surprising bit of advice: acknowledge that the Russians have a role to play in the Middle East.

"The window of opportunity for a second-term president isn't nearly as large as for a first-term president," he says. "Once the new term starts, the struggle starts within his own party to succeed him. And Democrats begin vying with each other to be the harshest, most effective critic of the president. So, anything he wants to do must be undertaken early and pushed hard."

"In foreign policy, whether the Middle East, Soviet-American relations or any change in direction in Central America, the time to do it is right now," he says, slapping his right fist into his left palm for emphasis.

Mr. Reagan doesn't seem likely to follow the former president's foreign policy advice — at least based on Mr. Reagan's first term, his campaign rhetoric and his recent private indications that he'll stick with the same foreign policy team.

Regardless, Mr. Nixon hopes President Reagan won't waste his landslide victory as did other big winners in this century. For different reasons, Presidents Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Johnson and, of course, Nixon, all got bogged down by the middle of their second terms.

Although Mr. Nixon won't say so directly, he makes it clear that Mr. Reagan needs some new — and preferably younger — aides. "With an election mandate, there is a tendency not to change, to dance with the girl you bring," he says.

The only two Reagan aides he singles out for compliments — and those are hardly effusive — are Secretary of State George Shultz, whom he describes as "very bright

and very open-minded," and National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, who, he says, is "worth listening to, more than just a paper shuffler."

"The big picture"

"If a president sees the big picture as Reagan does — and that's what makes him a good leader — he deserves the best help. If he doesn't have it, he will fail," Mr. Nixon says. "He's an architect who needs damn good bricklayers."

As Mr. Nixon sees it, President Reagan has almost limitless latitude to chart a new course. "Mr. Reagan owes his victory to no one and to everyone. He is free to chart his own course without being pushed by the left or the right. And Mr. Reagan's voice has never had more resonance with the rest of the world than right now, he adds.

To use this freedom and clout wisely, President Reagan must focus on only a few issues, Mr. Nixon says. "You have to use a rifle, not a shotgun." The major issues ought to be the Middle East and Soviet-American relations.

Surprisingly, Mr. Nixon, who like other presidents, worked to keep the Soviets out of the Middle East, now proposes that the U.S. acknowledge Moscow's role there and sit down and talk about it.

"I don't want the Russians dominating the area," he says, "but I think the Soviet Union should play a role in the Middle East. After all, the Russians are there. We must recognise that the major destabilising and dangerous factor in the Middle East isn't the Communist revolution but the Muslim-fundamentalist revolution."

Mr. Nixon's sense of urgency about the Mideast stems from a

belief that the risk of a superpower confrontation is greatest there. "The least likely threat of war is a Soviet SS-20 attack on Western Europe," he says. "But you've had five wars in the Middle East and at the present time, it is the best candidate for another one."

In addition, Mr. Nixon believes that given the clout of American Jewish voters, sound Mideast policy is possible only if it is launched by early 1985. "The only time you have a window of opportunity to come up with anything responsible in the Middle East is non-election years," he says.

"In 1986, there's no way you can do anything in the Middle East that won't be tilted too far in the direction of Israel."

He suggests that President Reagan revive his 1981 initiative calling for Jordanian-Israeli negotiations aimed at creating a Palestinian self-government on the West Bank and Gaza in "association" with Jordan. First Israel and then Jordan declined to join such talks.

But several things have changed since then and Mr. Nixon contends that chances for progress are better. "The table is set for a new initiative because responsible Israeli leaders know they need some resolution," he says. Egypt's return to leadership in the Arab World, particularly its new ties with Jordan, is "good news," he says.

On Soviet-American relations, Mr. Nixon's advice is for a slow, steady approach. Instead of focusing solely on a big arms control breakthrough, the president should initiate political talks on a range of issues, particularly "Third World" trouble spots.

In Mr. Nixon's view, there are solid geo-political reasons for

improving U.S.-Soviet relations. Progress on peripheral political issues not only reduces the risk of superpower clashes over some "Third World" hot spots but also may pave the way for progress on arms control.

Furthermore, better superpower relations reduce the chance that China, the Soviet Union's giant neighbour and nemesis, will try to exact too high a price from the U.S. for its cooperation against the Soviets. (Mr. Nixon, architect of the opening to China, ridicules those who see that relationship as more than a pragmatic marriage of convenience. A "love affair" with the Chinese is an "illusion" that would be laughable if it weren't so naive, he says.)

"You have to look at Soviet-American relations in the broader context of our interests in the Middle East, the Far East, Latin America and Africa. It is exacerbation of those political differences rather than an arms race that leads to war."

"There is too much of a tendency to focus on arms control, to say if we have arms control, we will have peace," he says. "If we have peace, we'll have arms control."

Mr. Nixon says he is confident that Mr. Reagan's tough anti-Soviet rhetoric hasn't scotched the president's chances for a better relationship with Moscow. "The Soviets are masters of tough rhetoric. They can turn around in midair — if Reagan is reasonable. They're not pushovers, but they know they have to deal with him."

Beyond political dialogue with the Soviets and a push for Mideast peace, Mr. Nixon also advocates a major Reagan initiative for the "Third World."

"I'm not talking about a sloppy Brandt (former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt) transfer-of-wealth proposal but a sophisticated package of aid, trade and loans," he says.

Mr. Nixon explained that his idea isn't really a Marshall Plan for recovery of advanced economies but rather a start-up plan for nations that have never had industrial economies. What he proposes is a complex programme under which industrial nations, particularly Japan, would increase their financial aid and trade with the "Third World." In short, he suggests expanding the recovery programme, which was proposed earlier this year for Central America and the Caribbean by the Kissinger Committee, to the entire "Third World." That plan called for some \$8 billion in financial aid to the region over the next five years from international lending institutions and the U.S.

Because Japan spends far less on defence than the other industrial economies (0.9 per cent of gross national product, compared with 7 per cent for the U.S.), Mr. Nixon contends the Japanese should spend far more on economic aid than the present 0.2 per cent of its GNP. "As the second-richest nation in the free world, Japan should pay for the free ride it is getting on the military front by a corresponding increase in its economic assistance to Third World countries," he says.

Mr. Nixon acknowledges his "Third World" proposal may not get far in this administration. "People think my Third World kick is a little flaky," he says. That's not a word one associates with the Richard Nixon of the '70s, but times change — The Wall Street Journal.

Time to reverse the tide

INTER-ARAB differences and disputes are the main features of modern Arab history. So long as these disputes persist, the door will remain wide open for more problems and more complications in the Arab region. Unless something is done to stop the slide, these problems will continue to be difficult to solve and all efforts for solving them will revolve in a vicious circle, because of the numerous obstacles, though some of these efforts are characterised by seriousness and good intentions.

Current Arab disunity shows that the Arabs have not yet learned from past experiences. These experiences prove beyond doubt that Arab differences and the lack of a unified strategy among Arabs have always been the direct cause of placing our problems in a whirlpool of "no solution," and have also brought about further complications that have surfaced on the Arab scene. These complications made us almost forget about our basic issue — that of the Palestinian people.

In the shadow of endemic tensions and divisions in the Arab World, Israel continues to occupy the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and stands as the major obstacle in the way of achieving a just peace in the Middle East. Also because of Arab differences, Iraq has been left to fight alone for four years in defence of the Arab Nation against Iranian expansionism and hegemony.

The differences have opened the door for superpower interference, offering the big powers the chance to establish bridge-heads in the region at the expense of its peoples. It is also because of persistent Arab differences that Algeria is at loggerheads with Morocco which in turn had to fight against the Polisario front over the Western Sahara; while Libya was left to fight against Tunisia and other Arab and African countries, and now the Palestinians.

Benefiting from Arab differences, Israel launched its invasion of Lebanon more than two years ago and occupied sizeable parts of that country. This invasion resulted in the massacres at Sabra and Shatila refugee camps and in the death of thousands of innocent Lebanese and Palestinians, and the eviction of Palestinian fighters from Beirut to be scattered around the Arab World.

Israel continues to establish settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in an open attempt to impose a de facto situation on the inhabitants of the occupied territories, and the Arabs are still unaware of the danger inherent in this policy despite numerous warnings by those who are true to their nation and its destiny.

It is due to persistent Arab differences that all international peace efforts have faltered, as if we Arabs do not wish to see our problems solved and are quite satisfied to bury our heads in the sand.

For how much longer can we afford to ignore the bitter realities in our midst? How can a step like that which brings the PNC to session to solve inter-Palestinian disputes be opposed by our brethren in Syria and elsewhere? How can the movement that Jordan started to bring Egypt back into the Arab fold be labelled "treason" and "wrong"?

It is time not to dwell on our differences and perpetuate our conflicts. It is time that the genuine forces of Arab strength and fraternity took the initiative to reverse the tide.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Discouraging situation

IN HIS lecture at the Royal Command and Staff Academy Sunday, King Hussein was critical of the prevailing Arab situation and the weak Arab Nation in the face of Zionist colonial measures in Palestine. The King displayed dissatisfaction with some Arab states which try to impose hegemony on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and those states which opt for endeavouring to ensure their own well-being rather than work towards achieving pan-Arab security. He made it clear that Zionist imperialism is threatening all Arabs, rich and poor, far away from Palestine or close to the occupied Arab lands, and urged that all Arabs work together to end the differences among them and build a strong nation.

The King was also critical of some Arab states which in their drive to develop themselves tend to ignore the development of the other Arab countries, out of a wrong belief that they will be safe and secure. His address to the academy's graduates was a diagnosis of the current Arab situation which he said is characterised by weakness, pointing to Arab failure to confront the Iranian and Zionist aggression on the Arab Nation.

The King's words reflected his pessimism over future prospects, but he was short of expressing total despair with the Arab Nation because he believed that Arab citizens still have the potential to make the required change.

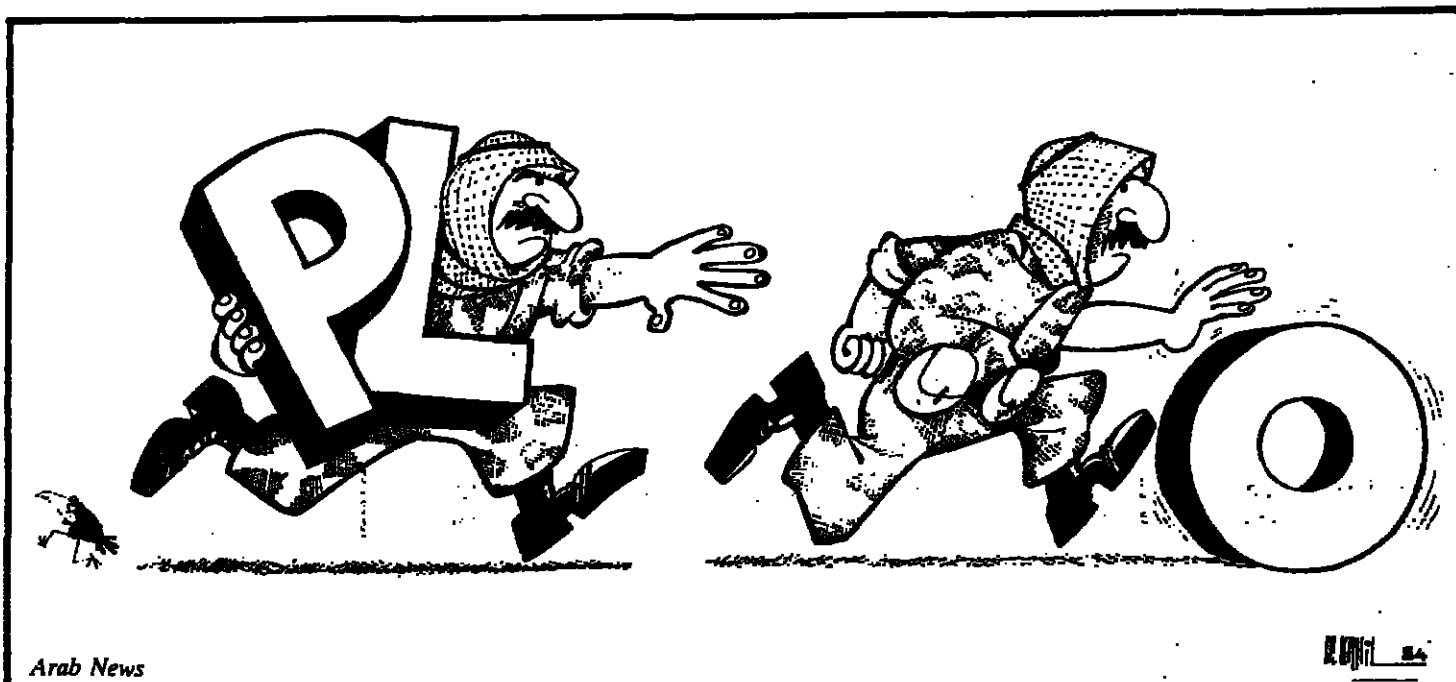
Al Dustour: For safeguarding Arab security

DIFFERENCES AMONG Arab states which existed a year ago still remain unresolved and they are largely responsible for Arab weakness and failure to confront the common challenges and threats. This point was made clear in a speech by King Hussein to the Royal Command and Staff Academy Sunday in which he said that the Arabs have so far failed to find a solution to the Iran-Iraq war, and still confront, with a weak stand, Israel's measures in the occupied Arab territories. He was critical of Arab states which support Iraq against Iraq, thus perpetuating the Gulf conflict, and those which try to meddle in the affairs of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which tend to weaken the organisation and encourage Israel to pursue its plans by building colonies and evicting the Palestinians from their homeland.

The King called for pan-Arab development plans to be implemented and for linking overall development in the Arab World with comprehensive security because he said Arab states should be all united in the face of common dangers. The King's call on the Arabs to mobilise their efforts, reflects his keenness on safeguarding overall Arab security and maintaining the well-being of the whole Arab Nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Outlining pan-Arab priorities

KING HUSSEIN'S address at the Royal Command and Staff Academy Sunday was a message directed to all Arabs to transcend their differences and to work for their common objectives. The King said that Jordan will be faithful to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and will extend its hand for cooperation with all Arab states. He was, however, critical of Arab states which with their actions tend to keep the Arab Nation weak and unable to shoulder its responsibilities. He said meddling in the affairs of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and supporting Iraq against Iraq are elements of weakness and destruction and tend to drive the nation to total collapse and defeat.



Young, old, beautiful contest Indian election

By Frances Kerry

Reuter

NEW DELHI — The young, the old and the beautiful are the main players in December's national elections in India, the world's largest democracy.

Until his mother's assassination 19 days ago, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, at 40 India's youngest-ever leader, was an unlikely main actor in the drama to unfold in the nation of 700 million people over the next 40 days.

He is a tall burly man who dresses simply in the loose fitting white cotton pyjama style outfit favoured by Indian politicians. He speaks quietly but firmly.

Rajiv Gandhi's unlined open face is a marked contrast to the careworn wrinkles on the forehead of veteran politician Charan Singh, probably his main rival in the poll and leader of a newly-formed opposition party.

Charan Singh is a frail and sto-

oping 81-year-old whose years have not blunted his ambition for power.

A former prime minister, he is terse and witty, with a keen memory for the crucial political speeches of the early days of India's 1947 independence when Rajiv was only three years old.

Maneka Gandhi, 28-year-old widow of Rajiv's younger brother Sanjay, and leader of a small opposition party, is probably the most glamorous figure in the elections. A former model, she has captured the minds of the media as India's only other prominent woman politician after her murdered mother-in-law.

She is contesting the same constituency as Rajiv and has attracted a following with firebrand oratory.

She is portrayed by followers as a defenceless and rejected daughter-in-law and by critics as tough rebel. Her strong features give her a determined look on the

campaign trail. Madras idol turned politician N.T. Rama Rao still looks as though he is on a film set — wearing the loose flowing saffron robes of a holy man.

Chief minister of Andhra Pradesh state in the south, Rama Rao emerged as Indira Gandhi's Achilles heel when he was dismissed last August and whipped up enough national support to lead to his reinstatement a month later.

He portrayed the drama as a triumph of good over evil to millions of supporters who best remember him for his film roles as a Hindu god.

Chandra Shekhar, the bearded and craggy 57-year-old leader of the Janata Party, which bears the name of the opposition coalition which defeated Indira Gandhi in 1977, was once one of her most enthusiastic supporters.

He won fame last year for a 4,000 kilometre walk round

India to meet the people in the populist style of the country's founding father, Mahatma Gandhi.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, also 57, is the stocky leader of the right wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Most Indians regard him as one of the outstanding successes of the Janata coalition as a foreign minister. He is a fine orator and recognised as a poet.

Former Prime Minister Morarji Desai, a leader of the opposition Janata Party, said in Bombay he welcomed the announcement of the election.

"My party will not compromise on principles with regard to seat adjustments with other opposition parties," he said.

Mr. Desai, 88, who led the Janata into office in 1977 in the only general election defeat suffered by the Gandhi family, said he would actively campaign for the opposition.

PNC to reiterate call for confederal ties

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Abdul Rahman disclosed that following the signing of an Algerian-South Yemen mediated compromise accord between Fateh and four independent Palestinian factions last June Syria has asked Fateh to promise not to condemn the Damascus-backed factions in return for its Syrian approval to convene the PNC.

The four factions to the agreement were grouped in a "democratic alliance" including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party.

The Fateh official, however, refrained from disclosing any details of the new Executive Committee that will be elected by the PNC session in Amman or the number of seats that will be given to other key factions which have announced that they will not attend the session in Amman.

But he said that "new forces will enter the Executive Committee."

Both the DFLP and the PFLP

have one seat each in the Executive Committee, but according to well-informed sources Fateh has agreed during the 10-month reconciliation talks that preceded last June's agreement to increase the membership the numbers of representatives on the committee. However, it was not clear whether Fateh has changed its mind when the two factions refused to participate in the PNC.

The sources also said that the "new forces" that Mr. Abdul Rahman referred to are the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party.

During the press conference Mr. Abdul Rahman also refuted accusations floated by a Syrian media campaign that by convening the PNC in Amman Fateh has dropped armed struggle and is succumbing to "capitulatory settlements" of the Palestinian problem.

He disclosed that the PNC will endorse a "new military strategy because it believes that the current balance of power in the area is not in favour of achieving a peaceful settlement."

"Only armed struggle can cha-

nge the current balance of power in the Middle East," he said. "We do not believe that a political solution is possible to the Palestinian problem."

Asked when Mr. Arafat will be arriving in Amman to attend the PNC session, Mr. Abdul Rahman said he did not know. However, sources said the PLO leader was expected in Amman in the next two days.

In Kuwait, meanwhile, a senior Fateh official also brushed aside the Syrian accusations by saying that the PLO would oppose any Middle East plan failing to guarantee sovereignty for Palestinians on their own soil.

"Nothing short of an independent and sovereign state of Palestine on Palestinian soil would be acceptable to the PLO," Salah Khalaf, number two in the Fateh group told the Kuwait Times.

He deplored Syrian efforts to remove Mr. Arafat as PLO chairman, and said any tampering with the leadership would wreck the liberation movement. This would harm the interests of all concerned, he added.

Stage set for PNC

(Continued from page 1)

convening the PNC in Amman, said that Fateh can rename representatives of these bodies without really violating the statute "because none of the other PLO factions have questioned such replacements in previous PNC sessions."

The Jordan Times has learnt that Fateh is determined to name new representatives in the PNC of the popular organisations regardless of the objections that it might encounter from other factions.

The strongest card Fateh is that of the PLO Higher Military Council whose members are appointed by PLO Chairman, Yasser Arafat and are automatically considered PNC members. Moreover, Mr. Arafat is empowered to appoint the number he likes and thus he can use the Military Council to compensate for any shortage to achieve the quorum if need be.

Economists see steady growth for Oman, recommend loans

By Jonathan Wright

Reuter

MUSCAT — The prospect of the Sultanate of Oman being in the market for a large international loan this winter is arousing keen interest among bankers faced with a shrinking list of creditworthy countries to lend to.

Many have been calling Muscat banks to check on rumours of a new borrowing. "They're very keen to participate. That's a clear sign of their confidence in the Omani economy," said one banker who had received several such calls.

The area manager of a large foreign bank here told Reuters that Oman, on the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, had such a good credit rating it could get a large syndicated bank loan tomorrow at highly favourable interest rates.

For economists see good growth prospects for Oman over the rest of the decade as the government spends its oil revenues on projects ranging from urban flyovers to rural clinics.

These revenues, now running at about 1.1 billion riyals (\$3.2 billion) a year, have already transformed what was a backward, disease-ridden and divided country only 15 years ago into a prosperous, healthy and unified state.

Much of the credit for the nation's success is given to Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, the absolute ruler who ousted his cautious father exactly 14 years ago. The anniversary and the Sultan's 44th birthday are being celebrated this weekend.

Unlike many other oil producers, non-OPEC Oman has been able to ride out a trend towards lower oil prices by raising output. Customers are easy to find because their tankers do not have to enter the Iran-Iraq war zone in the Gulf.

A cautious policy towards borrowing abroad has helped. A \$300 million loan raised from commercial banks in June last year was the Sultanate's first ever borrowing — a \$150 million loan arranged four years earlier was never drawn on.

Banking sources said there were strong rumours that Oman wanted a loan of similar size to last year's, to help cover a budget deficit this year estimated at 204 million riyals (\$590 million) when the budget was drafted in 1983.

Some of the deficit will be covered by withdrawals from the state general reserve fund, into which 15 per cent of oil revenues is paid.

The cost of servicing Oman's external public debt was last reported as only just over three per cent of the value of exports. As a result, development plans drawn up on the assumption that crude oil prices would be around \$40 a barrel have hardly suffered. The current Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) benchmark price is \$29.

Estimates of Omani oil reserves have risen steadily as new finds have been made and improvements to the country's pipeline system will bring pumping capacity to 650,000 barrels per day (bpd) by mid-1985, about two years ahead of schedule.

Official sources say oil production in Oman averaged 414,000 bpd in the third quarter of 1984, a record high.

A third five-year plan now on the drawing board is expected to be as ambitious as the last two. "It seems it will be more of the same — the Omanis still have plenty left to do," a Western economist told Reuters.

"The only thing that could upset their plans is another sudden fall in oil prices, and that seems unlikely. Otherwise business confidence is unassailable," he added.

Among schemes coming up are a port expansion expected to cost \$300 million, a sewer system for the southern town of Salalah and a string of smaller contracts for dams, roads, schools, hospitals and telephone systems.

Competition for contracts is keen, with firms from Britain, Cyprus, Lebanon and West Germany winning the biggest share, often in partnership with powerful local merchant families.

"It's a much sought after market. Omani partners are good and reliable and the government pays its bills on time," a senior diplomat said.

But not all the cash will go into construction schemes which only generate indirect income. Sultan Qaboos Bin Said declared in a recent magazine interview that the emphasis in coming years would be on diversifying away from dependence on oil.

"The Omanis are making a tremendous effort in this direction," the Western diplomat said, citing as examples two new cement factories, a copper plant near the northern town of Sohar and a range of light "import-substitution" industries.

Oman also plans to exploit its relatively abundant water resources, arable land and rich fishing grounds. Over 80 per cent of the workforce is still engaged in farming or fishing.

The government is restoring ancient underground irrigation channels which bring water to fields from aquifers deep in the mountains and building dams to recharge the aquifers by trapping rainwater, which previously drained into the sea.

In villages in the rugged interior, many accessible only by camel or four-wheel drive vehicles just a few years ago government-sponsored hamlets read: "Agriculture period which does not run out."

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Soviet Olympic chief criticises Seoul as site for 1988 Games

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Olympic committee chief Marat Gramov publicly criticised the choice of Seoul for the 1988 Olympic Games Monday for the first time and said Moscow considered it an inappropriate site.

At a meeting with a visiting group of Japanese politicians, Gramov said South Korea was the wrong kind of country for such an event, adding that Moscow had already received threats to harm Soviet athletes if they went there. "Frankly speaking, we don't understand why the Olympic Games should be held in Seoul," he told the Japanese group, according to a television journalist who attended the meeting.

Asked if Moscow felt more inclined to attend the 1988 games than the 1984 event, Gramov replied: "It is difficult to say."

He added that South Korea had proposed direct talks on the subject with Moscow and he indicated

that the Soviet side was ready to agree.

South Korea earlier Monday urged North Korea to resume talks as soon as possible on forming joint teams for international sports events, including the 1988 Olympics. The talks were broken off by North Korea last May.

In his meeting with the Japanese delegation, Gramov drew direct parallels between the planned Seoul Games and the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, which Moscow boycotted.

Asked if Moscow felt more inclined to attend the 1988 games than the 1984 event, Gramov replied: "It is difficult to say."

He said the Soviet Union generally felt that South Korea was

"not an appropriate place" for the Olympics because it had diplomatic relations with few countries and was a base for U.S. troops.

Recalling that Moscow stayed away from Los Angeles because of the alleged risk to its athletes, Gramov said the Soviet Olympic Committee had received a letter from the United States four days ago threatening Russian sportsmen who went to Seoul.

"All over the world terrorist groups are getting organised to exclude the Soviet Union from the Olympic Games," he added.

The Soviet press has carried a series of articles over the past two months suggesting the 1988 games venue should be changed.

Substitute for Monte Carlo planned

PARIS (R) — An event is being planned to replace the Monte Carlo Rally which has been excluded from next year's World Championship calendar, the chairman of the French sports daily l'Equipe said Monday.

Jacques Goddet told Monte Carlo Radio that l'Equipe had offered to organise a substitute rally in conjunction with the French Automobile Federation (FFSA) to save the prestigious event which runs partly through French territory and ends in Monaco.

The Monte Carlo Rally as well as the Monaco Formula One Grand Prix were ruled out of the 1985 World Championship calendar by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) last Thursday.

The exclusion of the rally followed a dispute between the Automobile Club of Monte Carlo

(ACM) and the FFSA, who last September decided to raise unprecedented levies on races organised by foreign federations on French ground.

In Monaco's case the sum demanded by the FFSA was one million francs (about \$110,000), which the ACM said it could not pay.

Last Wednesday the Monaco government, which acted as mediator between the ACM and the FFSA, abandoned the talks saying Jean-Marie Balestre, President of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), FIA's sporting arm, and of the FFSA, showed no sign of budging from his position.

Goddet said he had put forward his proposal to the Monaco authorities and to Balestre. He added all the parties concerned seemed to welcome it.

Observers noted that l'Equipe was a French organisation and that the FFSA levies were therefore not likely to apply to it.

Patrick Chapuis, editor of the automobile column in l'Equipe, told Reuters that nothing was settled yet and there could be new developments after a meeting next Tuesday between representatives of the French and Monaco governments and FISA.

He added the replacement event would not count for the World Championship and he did not know how many experienced teams would agree to take part.

The Monte Carlo Rally, which was due to start on January 26, used to open the championship. It dates back to 1911 and has been interrupted only once or twice, in unusual circumstances. The last interruption was in 1974, due to the petrol crisis.

Davis Cup final to be played on indoor clay court

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Davis Cup tennis final between Sweden and the United States will be played on a specially-constructed indoor clay court, the Swedish Tennis Association said Tuesday.

An association spokesman told Reuters the match would be played on a surface similar to that of the outdoor courts at Baastad where Sweden trounced Czechoslovakia 5-0 in their semifinal in September.

France built an indoor clay court for the 1982 final in Grenoble but failed to stop the Americans winning the tie 4-1.

Sweden's Davis Team captain

Hans Olsson and his players have said they need a slow surface if they are to have any chance of beating an American side which is likely to include John McEneaney and Jimmy Connors, the world's number one and three ranked players.

The Swedish players have been testing the surface on a court built for them by a Swedish car manufacturer in Nykoping.

One court will be installed in the Scandinavium arena in Gothenburg for the Dec. 16 to 18 final and an identical practice court will be built in an adjacent exhibition hall.

EC to discuss players' movements

BRUSSELS (R) — Representatives of 13 national soccer associations will meet European Commission (EC) officials here next month to discuss moves to allow players to play where they like within the 10-nation community, officials said Monday.

The Brussels-based commission said the associations' limitations on the number of foreign players able to play for a team are against community laws guaranteeing free movement of labour.

The commission and the associations agreed in 1978 to gradually eliminate these "nationality clauses" but progress since has been slow, commission sources said.

They said the commission was under pressure from players' associations to outlaw the clauses.

All 13 community soccer associations and the governing body of European soccer (UEFA) will be represented at the meeting on December 4.

Khan qualifies for Swiss final

ZURICH (R) — World number one Jahangir Khan of Pakistan and 10th-ranked Ross Thorne of Australia have qualified for the finals of the Swiss Masters Open Squash Tournament here Monday.

Khan, 20, continued his domination of the tournament over the

weekend, easily beating Australia's Ricki Hill in the quarter-finals and New Zealand's Stuart Davenport in the semifinals.

In the quarter-finals, the world number two, Chris Dittmar of Australia, was beaten by compatriot Dean Williams. But the effort exhausted Williams, a favourite with spectators, leaving the way open for outsider Thorne to go through to the finals.

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS (Sixth Education Project).

The Ministry of Education intends to call for tendering the construction of school buildings for the Sixth Education Project starting early 1985. This invitation calls for prequalification of contractors for the construction of (47) elementary and secondary schools of areas ranging between (3000-5200) square metres, as well as (53) school extensions averaging approximately (600) square metres each.

For purposes of prequalification of contractors for the above schools, the Government Tendering Directorate invites local classified contractors in the high classes and international contractors from the member countries of the World Bank for Development and Reconstruction, Switzerland and (Taiwan/China) to obtain prequalification forms from the projects directorate/ Ministry of Education according to the following conditions:

1. Local Building Contractors classified as general or first grade are allowed to submit forms for prequalification on condition that they provide all required information and they do not only make references to their classification documents in the Government Tendering Directorate.
2. International contractors are required to fill and submit the international forms (FIDIC) with complete documented information regarding their previous experience, their authorised and paid up capitals, and financial status in Jordanian Dinars.
3. Trends in awarding contracts after tendering:
 - a. Prequalification list for local contractors will show the maximum number of schools to be awarded to each individual contractors. The maximum number of schools to be awarded to local contractors will be according to tendering regulations at the time of awarding for both the new schools and the school extensions.
 - b. Prequalification list for international contractors will show the maximum number of schools to be awarded to each individual contractor. This number is expected to be (4-8) New schools depending on their qualifications.
4. Prequalification forms will be distributed from 17/11/1984 until 31/12/1984 from the Projects Directorate/Ministry of Education. Tel. 669181.
5. Prequalification documents will be submitted to the Govt. Tendering Directorate at the Ministry of Public Works at 12 noon on 12/1/1985.
6. The list of qualified contractors are expected to be announced during the first quarter 1985.

Chairman, Central Tendering Committee
Director, Government Tenders Directorate.

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VOICES, VOTES VIOLENCE (British miners drift back to the pits)
CHIR RON (U.S. President wins French friends)

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THE JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER CO. LTD. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT I LOAN

This notice for specific goods and services follows the general procurement notice for this project which appeared in Development Forum Business Edition Number 150 dated 16th May, 1984.

The Jordanian Electric Power Co. Ltd. (JEPCo) invites bids for the supply of outdoor Unit Substations financed by the World Bank under Loan Agreement 2371 - JO. Bids are invited from the World Bank member countries Switzerland and Taiwan.

JEP 982/IBRD - 250 kVA, 500 kVA and 1000 kVA, 11/0.4 kV and 11-6.6/0.4 kV outdoor Unit Substations.

40 - 250 kVA units
110 - 500 kVA units
20 - 1000 kVA units

Tender documents will be available for inspection only at the JEPCo offices in Amman.

Tender Documents may be purchased from Kennedy and Donkin, Godalming at the address given below, from, Tuesday, 20th November, 1984. Application for documents must include a non-refundable fee of £40 for each set of tender documents with which to tender for the contract. Documents will only be available on receipt of this fee in full.

The Jordanian Electric Power Co. Ltd.,
P.O. Box 618 (Near 1st Circle)
Jabal Amman,
AMMAN,
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
Telex No. 21507 JEPCO JO

Kennedy and Donkin,
Consulting Engineers,
Westbrook Mills,
GODALMING,
Surrey, GU7 2AZ
England.
Telex No. 859373 KDHO G

Tenders are to be submitted in English and must be completed in duplicate using the documents provided. The 'Master' and 'Copy' Tenders are to be returned to JEPCo in Amman.

All tenders are to be submitted by 1200 hours local time on Tuesday, 5th February, 1985. The 'Master' Tender will be opened thereafter in the offices of JEPCo on the closing date set for the receipt of tenders.

Cinema CONCORD Tel: 44092-44280 TRAIL OF THE PINK PANTHER Tel: 677420 Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	Cinema AL-HUSSEIN Tel: 22117 GANG OF THUGS (Colour) Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8	Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 25155 THE MAN WHO LOVED WOMEN (Colour) 3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.	Cinema ZAHARAN Tel: 23171 THE GUARD Colour Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8	Cinema OPERA THE FRENCH LIEUTENANTS WOMAN (Colour) Abdali, behind ALIA offices	Cinema PALESTINE Tel: 22117 TORCH OF FREEDOM (Colour) NINGA, THE WHITE FIGHTER Performances: 12-3-7	Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 22198 THE BRIDGE (Colour) Performances: 12-3-8
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Saudi fund to finance projects worth \$150m in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — The Saudi Fund for Development has agreed to finance a number of development projects in Bangladesh worth about \$150 million, Bangladesh principal finance secretary Mr. Mohammad Syeduzzaman said here.

He told reporters Sunday night on returning home after a Saudi-Bangladesh joint commission meeting in Riyadh that the projects included limestone and cement factories, irrigation and oil and gas exploration.

He said Bangladesh had also sought the fund's help to build a bridge on the river Jamuna to link the capital to northern areas of the country.

The feasibility report and other technical details about the bridge would soon be sent to the fund for consideration, he added.

The fund approved \$30 million in November last year for the construction of a bridge across the Teesta river also in the north. Mr. Syeduzzaman said the Saudi government had assured him of "most sympathetic consideration" of Bangladesh's financial and other help.

Tunisian schemes to receive \$30 m Arab, Islamic credits

ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development has extended a \$20 million loan to Tunisia to help finance irrigation projects.

The schemes form part of an agricultural programme in Burg Al Tunis Matar and Sahnan costing \$42.5 million.

The loan, signed by Dr. Mohammad Al Imadi, director general of the fund, and Abdul Jalil Al Muhairi, Tunisian ambassador to Kuwait, carries six per cent annual interest, to be repaid in 18 years, including a five-year grace period.

It brings total Arab Fund aid to Tunisia to \$145.7 million.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) is to extend a \$10 million loan to Tunisia for an ammonia-purchasing project.

The loan agreement was signed here Sunday by Mr. Ousmane Seck, IDP vice president, Mr. Salahuddin Siala, finance director of the Societe Arabe des Engrais Phosphates et Azotes (SAEPA), and Mr. Chakib Siala, deputy director general of the Tunisian Banking Company.

Kuwaiti private investors curb holdings in foreign currencies

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti investors steadily reduced their holdings of foreign currencies in the third quarter of this year in favour of expanding deposits in local currency, the central bank says in its latest monthly monetary review.

It said funds were attracted back into Kuwaiti dinar bank deposits after local interest rates started to rise while interest rates on U.S. dollar accounts were stabilising.

The central bank also managed its exchange rate policy, under which it fixes a daily rate for the dinar against the dollar, in such a way as to curb interest in foreign deposits and encourage a shift of investments back into local currency.

The central bank's review for September says the private sector's foreign currency deposits fell for the third month running.

They slipped to 770 million dinars (\$2.5 billion) from this year's peak of 827 million dinars (\$2.8 billion) in June.

At the same time private sight deposits rose for the first time since the end of 1983 to reach 637 million dinars (\$2.1 billion) while time deposits advanced to 2.19 billion dinars (\$7.24 billion).

International mining congress calls for modern technology

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Vice President Ramaswami Venkataraman, opening an international mining conference, (WMC) Monday urged the use of modern technology to harness the world's diminishing mineral resources.

More than 1,500 delegates from 40 countries are attending the five-day conference to discuss how to conserve dwindling supplies of such minerals as coal, copper, bauxites and iron ores.

Mr. Venkataraman said: "Adoption of modern techniques for the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources will help developing countries to progress faster."

"Minerals and ores provide the basic building blocks of civilisation," he added.

Conference sources said the meeting, the first in an Asian country since the WMC was founded 27 years ago, would consider transfer of modern technology to the Third World for mining and exploration of new areas.

Oslo forces oil firms to reconsider strategy

OSLO (R) — Foreign oil companies are assessing their operations on the Norwegian continental shelf following a government decision to hand over responsibility for the nation's biggest oil field to a Norwegian company.

U.S. oil giant Mobil suffered a blow to its Norwegian operations last week when the centre-right coalition government decided to change operators on the Statfjord field, awarding the prestigious North Sea job to the state-owned Statoil company.

None of the international companies currently exploring or producing oil and gas off the Norwegian coast have said they will pull out, but several told Reuters the government decision would force them to reexamine strategy in Norway.

The Conservative Party, the major coalition partner, favoured Mobil keeping control of Statfjord. But last Thursday it gave way to demands by the centre party, a minority partner, who threatened to bring about a damaging government defeat in a parliamentary vote if it failed to give Statfjord to Statoil.

Foreign firms are now worried they are being gradually squeezed out of oil activities in Norway.

A Mobil spokesman said: "We don't know how yet, but obviously this decision is going to affect our long-term strategy in Norway."

The companies are also worried they will be further penalised if, as opinion polls predict, the opposition Labour Party is returned to power in general elections next autumn. Labour supports Statoil's control of Statfjord operations, due to take effect between January 1987 and January 1989.

A spokesman for Norske Shell A/S, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Royal Dutch Shell Group, told Reuters the company was planning to stay in Norway, but the Statfjord case was worrying. Energy analysts here said several foreign oil companies were already showing signs of losing interest in Norwegian operations because of heavy taxation of drilling profits.

Phillips Petroleum and the Norwegian government are preparing for a supreme court battle over a taxation increase the company said was unlawful and other companies, Amoco and Arco, are reported to be hesitant over future activities.

Arco came into Norway like a dust storm off the desert a few years ago but now they don't seem to have their hearts in it," one American analyst told Reuters.

Differences in American and Norwegian temperaments have caused problems. "The Americans are loud and brash and want to get things done yesterday but the reserved Norwegians don't much appreciate that," the analysts added.

The sense of mistrust has grown because Norwegian governments felt they were being exploited by the foreign companies, while the oil companies argue Norway was willingly accepted huge investment in its offshore industry, the analysts said.

As well as Statoil, Norway now has two other oil companies, Norsk Hydro and Saga Petroleum, active in Norwegian waters. The three combine aggressive marketing techniques with their native status to ensure the lion's share of concessionary licences.

From 1965 to 1974, when the Norwegian shelf was in its infancy, foreign companies were responsible for running all oil wells, but since then they have been made operators on just 17 out of the 60 licensing blocks awarded, according to Norwegian petroleum directorate figures.

Warsaw announces withdrawal from ILO

WARSAW (R) — Poland formally announced Monday it was withdrawing from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) because the U.N. agency took note of a report condemning alleged abuses of trade union freedom by the Polish government.

The ILO, based in Geneva, said it regretted the decision but added that it "was taken over a question which is fundamental".

Poland's permanent representative to the Geneva-based agency, Mr. Stanislaw Turbanski, notified ILO Director General Francis Blanchard of the decision in a letter delivered two days ago, the official Polish news agency PAP said.

PAP quoted the letter as saying: "The government of the Polish People's Republic cannot remain indifferent any longer in the face of a tendentious and hostile attitude towards Poland on the part of certain quarters with the ILO and some of its international civil servants..."

The report, published last June after a year-long inquiry by a three-man ILO team, found that

the Polish government had infringed workers' rights by suppressing the independent labour movement Solidarity under martial law in December 1981.

The report described martial law as "a step of exceptional gravity that had no common measure with occasional excesses that might have occurred in the trade union movement" during Solidarity's 15-month legal era before martial law.

Mr. Blanchard said in a statement Poland's decision was to be regretted but added: "Universal membership has to mean a universal commitment to the constitution and to the procedures as well as the principles contained in it."

Under ILO rules, Poland is required to remain a member during a two-year notice period after notifying withdrawal.

Soviet bloc countries had tried to dissuade the ILO's executive board from acting on the report at its annual meeting last week, but the board decided to take note of it by a vote of 31 to 10 with 12 abstentions.

African famine mars FAO meeting

ROME (R) — The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Monday began a governing council meeting under the shadow of the "stark human tragedy" of famine in Africa, FAO Director General Edouard Saouma said.

Africa continues to be the U.N. agency's first priority, he told delegates of 49 countries attending the two-week meeting at its Rome headquarters.

He spoke of the "stark human tragedy ... in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa — the appalling pictures of emaciated children, the victims of war, the columns of refugees trailing across a dusty landscape into urban squalor."

"The prospect of more hunger and hardship in Africa is truly daunting," Mr. Saouma said. But he warned that one or two disastrous harvests in other regions of the world could cause an even worse calamity among the urban masses and poor farmers.

Mr. Saouma described the need for more food production in all

developing regions, and the achievement of food security, as long-term priorities which would remain so for the rest of the delegates' lives.

FAO's latest forecast puts world cereal stocks at the end of 1984/85 harvest at 291 million tonnes, 10 per cent up on the previous year.

This would represent 1.8 per cent of expected world consumption in the following 12 months, an adequate level for world food security, according to FAO.

"The paradox is that we have famine in the midst of plenty," a senior FAO executive told Reuters. "The carryover stocks are a slightly academic figure, since national crop years are different, but they give some idea of the world's ability to deal with a future emergency."

Mr. Saouma said FAO's food aid committee would study ways of reacting more quickly to famine, such as borrowing food stocks from developing countries with a surplus.

He said recent developments had fortified his belief that world food security was of paramount importance. (Ethiopia resettles drought victims p.8)

Israel faces unemployment crisis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Israeli cabinet was Sunday told that 15,000 state employees will have to be dismissed if the government's battle against 800 per cent a year inflation is to succeed, a government spokesman said.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters he gave cabinet colleagues a bleak option — either cut staff or severely prune all services.

He said the cabinet decided in principle to slash a further \$550 million from its budget over the next 12 months, mostly in defence spending.

The multi-party coalition has already cut \$250 million from the \$9 billion budget available after debt repayments.

The finance ministry recommended that 15,000 state employees, including 4,000 teachers and at least 2,000 army regulars, be dismissed, the spokesman said.

Labour and Welfare Minister Moshe Katzav predicted unemployment would rise by 50 per cent within a year and reach a level not seen in Israel since the late 1960s. It now stands at 90,000, or 5.9 per cent of the workforce.

Mr. Mordechai said the government would institute retraining schemes and provide welfare for the very poor.

"The very weak echelons will be supported by the state. Everybody else will have to take his cut," he said.

The cabinet appointed a four-

man ministerial committee to supervise the cuts and scheduled a special session this week to study the effects of defence cuts on state security.

Oman boasts 5.1% growth

MUSCAT (R) — The Omani economy grew 5.1 per cent in 1983 and is likely to expand at a similar or higher rate this year, the central bank said in a report.

The report said gross domestic product last year was 2.74 billion riyals (\$7.92 billion) compared with 2.61 billion riyals (\$7.54 billion) in 1982. With crude oil production and government expenditure both rising, the growth in the economy for 1984 is expected to reach the same level or probably surpass that of 1983, it added.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, NOV. 20, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Now you have an unusually good day and evening to make whatever arrangements are of interest to you with other persons.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Sit down with a partner and decide what is best to do in the future, and then put such plans into quick action.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get right at your work and handle it precisely so that you can get the desired benefits from it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A fine day to make arrangements for the days ahead that can relieve you of tensions and lift your spirits.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan how to make those changes at home that will make it a more charming place to be in, but first get OK of kin.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A better understanding with those you contact in the business world is possible. Don't be so opinionated and try to listen to others.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get your property improved and impress others with your precise ideas and modus operandi. You will get excellent ideas in the future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are charming and magnetic now and should contact those who can assist you in gaining personal goals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can get into that research work you had not finished and come up with the right information now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You want to be with as many friends as possible and have a wonderful time with them, so do just that.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to get in touch with persons who can give you backing you need. Bring your talents to the attention of higher-ups.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get out of that rut you are in and take a little trip that can bring in special benefits at this time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try to get connected with a progressive person in business who can help to make your future much brighter.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very much attached to home and family and should have many playmates around early in life in order to learn to socialize more. One who should go to modern schools where computers and other technological studies are given since your progeny is a precisionist.

THE Daily Crossword by H. Karmil Jackson

ACROSS

- Configuration
- P.D. notices
- Want too
- fast
- Cambridge
- Stagger
- Beverage nut
- Lifeline
- Most dreadful
- "Magnum"
- the Fall
- Chin, poplite
- Jojo Bros
- "Harry"
- Rio Grande city
- Smelter refuse
- Canal nation
- Honolulu port
- Speaking publicly
- Public vehicle
- 40
- More potent
- Cylindrical and tapering
- Preside as
- Judge
- Rue
- Corral ring
- Rolls of money
- Great respect
- Hawaiian veranda
- Loose garment
- Orbit of a kind
- 00 — nez
- Fachal
- Heb. measure
- 03 Thal or Arabian
- Dye chemical
- 64 Gestures yes
- Office worker

DOWN

- Rapid
- Ho's capital
- Report damper
- Coffee pot
- It. clan name
- Pinball piece
- 7 Treachery
- 9 Ripped
- 9 Winter weather
- 10 Winter runner
- 11 Pound, e.g.
- 12 Famed lioness
- 13 Felt
- 14 Jimmy
- 28 Despotism
- 29 Sounded bells
- 30 Dress style
- 29 Shoe cord
- 30 He loves: Lat.
- 31 Comic Kaplan
- 32 Ritz
- 33 Comic Johnson
- 34 Honolulu city
- 35 "Kiss Me —"
- 37 Yoked beasts
- 38 Sky-diver's sail
- 42 Told
- 46 Bending tool
- 47 Part of 6 A
- 48 Claw
- 50 Palmer of golf
- 51 Zodiak division
- 52 "— evil"
- 53 Nora's dog
- 54 Report danger
- 55 Small case
- 57 Resorts
- 59 Shocking fish

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Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

- RIAHN
- PIRILIS
- SNIEW
- OTIOE
- AMILDE
- RAISH
- SIOW
- RAILEM
- OTIOE
- UPTOTHEMINUTE
- LOIS
- JOIE
- POPPLAR
- SHAG
- RAMS
- AARON
- SOUP
- ROD
- STANDONCEREMONY
- SEI
- LAUKS
- PARIEE
- ERR
- ARIGIO
- POINTIS
- HAIR
- STIC
- SEITHEFEASHION
- DOOD
- ORANT
- SPAT
- IRON
- SARTO
- LUNA
- GAIGE
- SITIAL
- ESIAO

Print answer here: AN (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: MANGE SUAVE BEDECK PENURY

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NATO says no change in policy towards Lemnos

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO's military command, reacting to Turkish press reports that NATO was ready to incorporate Greek forces on Lemnos into allied command, said Monday alliance policy towards the Greek Aegean island was unchanged.

"There has been no change at all in NATO policy on that matter," a spokesman for the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, Gen. Bernard Rogers, said. "The status of Lemnos is a problem between Greece and Turkey which only they can solve."

Weekend Turkish press reports alleged that Gen. Rogers was ready to accept a Greek plan to put 18 F-5 fighter planes and related ground units on Lemnos under allied command.

Turkey says the island must

remain demilitarised under the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne but Greece says that requirement lapsed under the 1936 Treaty of Montreux.

NATO sources said Ankara was objecting to the fact that Greece had for the first time declared the forces on Lemnos as NATO-dedicated in its annual defence planning questionnaire, a document submitted by member nations to NATO headquarters.

But the sources said this was a national document and did not

imply acceptance by the alliance of the position of those forces.

Secretly General Lord Carington reaffirmed NATO policy on Lemnos in remarks to allied parliamentarians last week, saying the status of the island was a bilateral issue between Greece and Turkey in which the alliance could not take sides.

Greece has boycotted all recent NATO exercises in the Aegean because of the exclusion of Lemnos, which Athens says favours the Turkish interpretation.

NATO officials fear the issue may again disrupt alliance business if Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu attends a NATO defence ministers' meeting here next month as planned.

Romania set to extend Warsaw Pact membership

BUCHAREST (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu made clear Monday his country, which has restricted military cooperation with its Soviet Bloc allies, would extend its membership of the Warsaw Pact when it comes up for renewal next year.

Speaking to the 13th Romanian Communist Party Congress, Mr. Ceausescu said Romania "will have to consider accepting the extension of the term of the treaty."

This followed because the Pact and NATO had not been able to reach an agreement simultaneously to disband the two alliances, he said.

Mr. Ceausescu, 66, who has steered his country along a path of

relative independence within the seven-member pact, suggested in his opening address that the party should approve the move during its five-day congress.

He said that even after the pact, signed originally in Warsaw in 1955, had been extended, Romania would "support all initiatives to create conditions for steady dismantling of the two military blocs."

He did not specify for how many years Romania would be prepared to extend its commitment to the treaty.

Western diplomats believed Romania may wish an extension of four or five years, while they said Moscow may be pressing for a longer term.

Thatcher, Fitzgerald start talks on Northern Ireland

LONDON (R) — Surrounded by tight security at her country retreat, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher began talks Monday with Irish leader Garret Fitzgerald on ending guerrilla violence in Northern Ireland.

The venue, switched at the last minute, was kept secret until the Irish prime minister arrived Sunday night at Mrs. Thatcher's official country residence, Chequers, in the Buckinghamshire countryside 50 kilometres west of London.

The outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) narrowly failed to assassinate Mrs. Thatcher and many members of her cabinet in a bomb attack on a hotel in the seaside resort of Brighton last month during her Conservative Party's annual conference.

Monday's meeting was originally set for Dublin and the switch prompted criticism of Mr. Thatcher by Irish opposition leader Charles Haughey, who said it showed lack of faith in Ireland's security forces.

British government sources said the talks would focus on ways of combating the guerrilla threat in the British-ruled province, where 2,400 people have died in political and guerrilla violence in the last

15 years.

The sources said the two sides would look at strengthening cooperation on security matters. The Guardian newspaper said one outcome could be the formation of an advisory security commission. Irish sources said Mr. Fitzgerald calmed down his expectations and was not anticipating any major political initiative from Mrs. Thatcher, largely because she was preoccupied with the protracted miners' strike in Britain.

The talks are the first since publication last May of a Dublin-sponsored report proposing new political structures for the North, with a formal role for the Irish government, in an attempt to end the bloodshed.

While no major new initiatives are expected to emerge from this meeting, Dublin is hoping for some indication that Britain is aware of the alienation of the Catholic-minority in the North, and is prepared to do something about it.

The issue of security co-operation is also bound to arise. Bad feeling was caused in Dublin the week before last over a leak in Britain of discreet Irish moves towards catching and extraditing suspected guerrillas.

2,200 U.K. miners return to work

LONDON (R) — Britain's state coal firm Monday reported the heaviest return to work yet by miners, saying that almost one man in three was now defying the miners' union and abandoning the eight-month-old strike.

About 2,200 "new faces" were counted at the collieries Monday morning, pushing the number at work to 62,000 out of an official workforce total of 189,000, the National Coal Board said.

But strike leader Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), continued to challenge the figures, saying three-quarters of the workforce was still on strike.

"The coal board have been predicting a surge back to work in the return-to-work figures since March 1984. Of course it has not happened and what has taken place is a complete and utter disaster so far as the coal board is concerned," he said.

Most of Britain's miners went on strike last March over coal board plans to shed jobs.

Vietnamese seize parts of Kampuchean rebel base

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnamese troops seized parts of a Kampuchean guerrilla base near the Thai border, forcing thousands of civilians to flee on the second day of a big attack, Thai military officials said.

They said about 3,000 Vietnamese soldiers had moved into parts of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KNPLF) camp at Nong Chan, a few kilometres from Thailand in Kampuchea's north Western Battambang province.

Thai Army Secretary Nareudol Dejpradit said about 1,000 Kampuchean civilians crossed into Thailand to escape the fighting.

The rest of Nong Chan's 21,000 civilians were heading north east towards two larger KNPLF camps, Thai officials said.

They said the Vietnamese began shelling the base with artillery and tanks before dawn Sunday.

Ethiopia resettles drought victims

ADDIS ABABA (R) — An ambitious scheme to resettle up to 2.5 million of Ethiopia's nine million drought victims began last week, state television reported Sunday night.

It showed pictures of groups of peasants at Makelle, in drought-stricken northern Tigray province, boarding a Soviet aircraft to be flown to more fertile areas.

Further south at Dessie, the regional capital of Wollo province, thousands of drought victims were

pictured boarding buses to be transported to their new homes.

Foreign donors have organised massive airlifts of food to Ethiopia where the failure of spring and autumn rains has threatened about nine million people with starvation, according to Dawit Wolde Giorgis, Ethiopia's top relief official.

Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam told a news conference on Saturday that the government planned to move around

2.5 million people from regions where drought has made their way of life impossible to more fertile western areas.

Areas to be resettled include Gojam and Illubabor provinces in western Ethiopia, where the land is fed by rivers.

The government has asked donor countries to provide housing and farm implements to enable the peasants to fend for themselves as soon as possible.

Chirac brings fresh blood into party

GRENOBLE (R) — Jacques Chirac has brought fresh blood into the Gaullist Party machine before elections in 1986 which he hopes will make him once again France's prime minister.

At the close of a two-day congress here Mr. Chirac named Jacques Toubon, 43, his closest political lieutenant for the past 15 years, as the new secretary-general of the RPR (Rassemblement Pour la République).

Mr. Toubon, often described as "Chirac's Chirac", is a dynamic political fighter in the style of his mentor, whom President Georges Pompidou once likened to a bulldozer.

Announcing the choice Sunday

to 50,000 wildly cheering party militants, Mr. Chirac, 51, described Mr. Toubon as a man "whose pugnacity is recognised by all."

Party sources said that by accepting the resignation of Bernard Pons, 58, as head of the party organisation, Mr. Chirac had bowed to those seeking a younger, more dynamic party image.

Mr. Chirac wrested control of the Gaullist movement in the 1970s from its traditional old guard, whose presence is now largely symbolic.

Party sources said Claude Labbe, RPR group leader in the National Assembly, was also likely to be urged to step aside in

favour of a younger man.

Mr. Chirac warned the Gaullist faithful that they should not take victory in the 1986 National Assembly poll for granted.

He warned that President Francois Mitterrand was likely to introduce some form of proportional representation which might deny any clear-cut victory to the opposition.

While the RPR, guardians of the Fifth Republic constitution bequeathed by Gen. de Gaulle, see proportional representation as heresy, it is favoured by former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and much of the centre-right UDF.

Indonesian drought claims 231 lives

JAKARTA (R) — Thousands of people are ill from famine-related diseases following a drought that has killed more than 230 people in a remote area of Indonesia, a government spokesman said Monday.

The spokesman told Reuters by telephone from Irian Jaya province that eight villages in Kurima district had been severely hit by the drought that began in August.

He confirmed a weekend report in the authoritative Jakarta newspaper Kompas that 231 people had died in Kurima.

The central government has rushed relief aid to the province, formerly Dutch New Guinea, he added.

But Irian Jaya's interior has no roads and there were few air strips where light planes could land.

An official of the Social Affairs Ministry in Jakarta said last week that the government learned of

the drought and famine only in October.

More than 300 deaths from hunger and disease were reported from the same area a year ago.

The spokesman said the region regularly had been hit by famine in the last decade.

The people of the area live virtually naked at high altitudes, apparently boosting their vulnerability to illness.

Palace denies Marcos surgery report

MANILA (R) — The Philippine Presidential Palace Monday denied press reports and widespread rumours that President Ferdinand Marcos was seriously ill and had undergone major surgery.

"This is false ... Information Minister (Gregorio) Cendana has gone out of his way to deny the rumours," a spokesman said.

But other palace sources said that neither Mr. Marcos nor his wife Imelda appeared to be at the palace.

"This is the first time in 20 years (of rule) that he has been out of contact with palace staff for more than two days," one source said.

"There is no argument but that the president has been ill," the source added. "The only question is what happened to him and where he is now."

Rumours about the 67-year-old president's health have been a continuing source of gossip and speculation for the past few weeks. According to one of the rumours he had flown to the Uni-

ted States for emergency treatment in Houston while another said he had been shot.

Former Information Minister Francisco Tatad, writing in the newspaper Business Day, quoted palace sources as saying Mr. Marcos "underwent a major surgical operation last Wednesday."

Mr. Tatad reported them as saying: "The operation was a success ... but medical informants who claimed to be familiar with the case could not say for sure whether he was completely past the crisis."

"They said he needed at least two operations, one involving the kidney and another the heart, and it is not known whether doctors had to perform just one or two surgeries."

The palace spokesman quoted Information Minister Cendana as denying on Friday rumours that Mr. Marcos was ill or out of the country.

The minister, who was at a boxing match, said he had seen Mr. Marcos the previous day in his

Thousands protest at Spain's education policies

MADRID (R) — Spain's Socialist government Monday faced renewed calls for a compromise on education policy after hundreds of thousands of middle-class Spaniards joined the biggest opposition demonstration in its 23-month-old rule.

The march Sunday in central Madrid was called by Catholic groups linked to Spain's mostly church-owned private schools.

The groups accuse the government of applying a law tightening control over the schools, which are dependent on state subsidy, without waiting for a court ruling on its constitutionality.

Under the law, managers of church schools, attended by 22 per cent of Spanish children aged between six and 14, would be left in a minority on governing councils that also include representatives of teachers, parents and pupils.

Catholic Parents' Confederation President Carmen de Alvear, the main organiser of the march, said a million people had backed calls for a compromise on the law's implementation. Officials put attendance at 250,000.

Opposition parties backing the demonstration said it was a general protest against the government.

Rightist opposition leader Manuel Fraga, who marched behind the organisers, told Reuters: "This shows what ordinary citizens think about the Socialist government."

The education law, passed last March, was challenged by Mr. Fraga's Popular Alliance (AP) before the constitutional court on grounds that it violated parents' right to choose the kind of education they wanted for their children.

Leading Catholic intellectuals and politicians said in a manifesto the demonstration was to back "principles of private property and ideological control."

Man's hacked feet sewn back on

DUNDEE, Scotland (R) — A housewife used ice from a neighbouring fish and chip shop to freeze her husband's feet lying in a bucket after he had hacked them off with an axe.

The severed limbs were sewed back on by surgeons at Dundee Royal Infirmary in an operation lasting 10½ hours.

A hospital spokesman said the man, Asiph Muhammad, a Pakistani immigrant aged 28 years had been suffering from severe bouts of depression since returning to Scotland from Pakistan earlier this year.

His wife Karen said: "Asiph had lost his senses. I had to keep him in bed. He found him (the axe) with an axe by his side after he went to investigate a noise in a nearby room of their house."

Underground fire still burning for 3,000 years

MOSCOW (R) — An underground fire in a Central Asian coal deposit has been burning for more than 3,000 years, Soviet scientists have said. The fire, which sends ash and gases spewing from the slopes of Ravat Mountain in Tadzhikistan, was documented by the Roman Naturalist Pliny 2,000 years ago and is likely to continue for centuries to come, said the report in a Moscow newspaper, Sovetskaya Industriya.

Scientists had recently established that it started well over 3,000 years ago, the report said. It said the fire was the oldest and largest phenomenon of its kind in the world. A similar subterranean fire in the U.S. state of Ohio has been burning since 1894. "The only other major fire of its kind in Mongolia, started 50 years ago. Experts calculated that the cost of extinguishing the fire, burning at a depth of 550 metres, would far outweigh the commercial value of the coal which would be saved."

Chinese report new birth control device

PEKING (AP) — Chinese doctors have perfected a new male birth-control device, a removable plug inserted by syringe into the sperm duct, a newspaper reported Sunday. The front-page story in the Peking Evening News said medical researchers at the Shanxi Provincial People's Hospital spent 12 years working on the plug and experimented with it by first using it on themselves. "It is highly effective, safe, non-surgical, removable and allows for recovery of the male's sexual (fertility)," the account said. The paper did not explain what substance is in the plug or how long it remains effective, but described the device as a liquid capsule that stops the sperm. After the researchers experimented on themselves successfully, the paper said, they tested the plug on "more than 1,000 healthy males." Results showed the device is "100 per cent effective," the paper said. Several leading medical experts have endorsed the new method, the paper said, including Wu Jiaping, head of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences.

Mr. Cendana added: "You know, rumours about the president's health have been circulating like wildfire. There is simply no truth to all these rumours."

The minister said that Mr. Marcos usually set aside Friday, Saturday and Sunday as rest days.

Mr. Tatad, who left the Marcos government in 1980 and is now a columnist with Business Day, said: "Amid the most distressing reports about the president's state of health, it is a matter of duty — not of choice — that official medical bulletins be issued by the government."

"The people have a right to know whether their president is ill or well, and the government has a duty to inform them. The very security of the nation is endangered by official silence or indifference."

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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FORCE THAT ENTRY

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 52
♥ A Q 7 6 5
♦ 8 7 6 4
♣ J 2

WEST

♠ 8 8 3
♥ 1 9 3 2
♦ K J 10
♣ 8 5 3

EAST

♠ 7 4
♥ K 10 8 4
♦ Q 5 2
♣ K 10 9 6

SOUTH

♠ A K Q J 10 6
♥ Void
♦ A 9 3
♣ A Q 7 4

The bidding:

South West North East

2 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass

4 ♠ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠.

Once you have opened with a demand bid, there is no need for you to be overly aggressive. You have described your hand, so you can afford to make minimum bids thereafter and leave it to partner to press on.

After receiving a positive response to his two spade opening, South simply showed his second suit. When North could do no better than take a preference to four spades, South wisely elected to pass. The fact that he was void in his partner's suit was a serious drawback. Had North had anything in the way of extra values, he would have found some other

bid.

West got off to the best lead of a trump, and when dummy appeared even four spades was no laydown. Declarer was faced with the possibility of losing two tricks in each minor suit, and he could not take advantage of the ace of hearts for a discard because there was no quick entry to dummy.

While declarer could have ruffed a club had West not led a trump, to pursue this course now would be throwing good coin after bad. If declarer leads the ace of clubs and another, the defenders will win the king and play another trump, and now declarer has no way to avoid three more losers in the minor suits.

A sounder plan is to make use of dummy's jack of clubs. Declarer should win the trump and immediately lead the queen of clubs from hand! The defenders have no satisfactory rejoinder.

If East wins the king of clubs, the table's jack of clubs becomes an entry to the ace of hearts, and declarer can discard one of his losers. But by refusing to win the king of clubs East does even worse. Now declarer continues with the ace of clubs and a ruff, and he can make an overtrick by taking a discard on the ace of hearts.

Pakistani minister resigns

ISLAMABAD (R) — Interior Minister Mahmood Haroon, a close associate of Pakistan's martial law President Mohammad Zia ul Haq, has resigned for personal reasons, a government spokesman said Monday.

Mr. Haroon, 64, who was also head of a committee planning elections promised by next March, submitted his resignation Sunday night to Gen. Zia who accepted it reluctantly, the spokesman said.

He could give no further details and Mr. Haroon was not immediately available for comment.

The resignation surprised politicians and diplomats. They said the veteran politician had been mentioned as a possible prime minister in the new civilian government to be formed after the polls.

"One would have expected him to be a key figure in the elections," one diplomat said.

French settlers win New Caledonia elections amid violence

NOUMEA (R) — French settlers opposing independence have swept to power in elections in the territory of New Caledonia as tear gas was used to fight off indigenous Melanesian militants attempting to deposit them.

Police used stun grenades and tear gas as they battled against the Melanesians, known as Kanaks, who were demanding an immediate break from French rule. They had stolen ballot boxes, set up road blocks and occupied town hall polling booths in an attempt to ruin the poll.

With nearly all votes counted Sunday night, election officials predicted the Ultra-Conservative Republican Party (RPCR), which sees independence for the territory only as a distant prospect, had won 34 seats, dominating its stronghold around the capital, Noumea, where most of the 54,000 whites live.

France has set up the new 42-seat National Assembly to give New Caledonia greater autonomy

in a run-up to a referendum in 1989 on independence.

But the militants, grouped as the Front for the Liberation of the Socialist Kanak (FLNKS) want immediate independence under the name Kanaky (land of the people).

The indigenous Melanesian would lose a referendum because they make up only 43 per cent of the 145,000 population, the majority being settlers from France and Pacific states.

Six seats were expected to go to a moderate Kanak group, EKS, which is prepared to cooperate with France on independence, and two seats to right wing parties.

But the FLNKS, taunting moderates trying to vote at town and village halls, severely restricted the votes cast in many rural districts, officials said.

There were "no returns" from six of the 32 municipalities because the voting papers were stolen and only a nine per cent turnout in the town of Hienghene, one of the

many rural districts where hundreds of stone-throwing Kanaks fought with police, they said.

Voter turnout in the east of the Pacific island was only 26 per cent.

In Paris a French government report Sunday night said there had been a few injuries in clashes between militants and police.

But the secretariat of state for overseas departments and territories said there had been no fighting between islanders wanting independence and settlers opposed to it.

France flew in 280 special riot police for the election but they were used only to guard key electricity and communication links and did not see action.

If the French authorities allow the election to stand, the next move is the swearing in on Thursday of the new assembly, and its appointment of ministers.

They will have authority over an increased range of functions, including public services, but Paris will retain control of matters such

as finance and external relations.

But, claiming victory by disrupting the poll, the FLNKS now plans to set up its own "provisional government" in New Caledonia on Dec. 1.

France's chief representative in New Caledonia said Monday he would declare the victory of anti-independence groups in Sunday's elections to be official despite violent attempts to disrupt the polling.

"The election is valid because 55 per cent of the 80,000 electorate expressed itself," French High Commissioner Jacques Royneite told Reuters.